

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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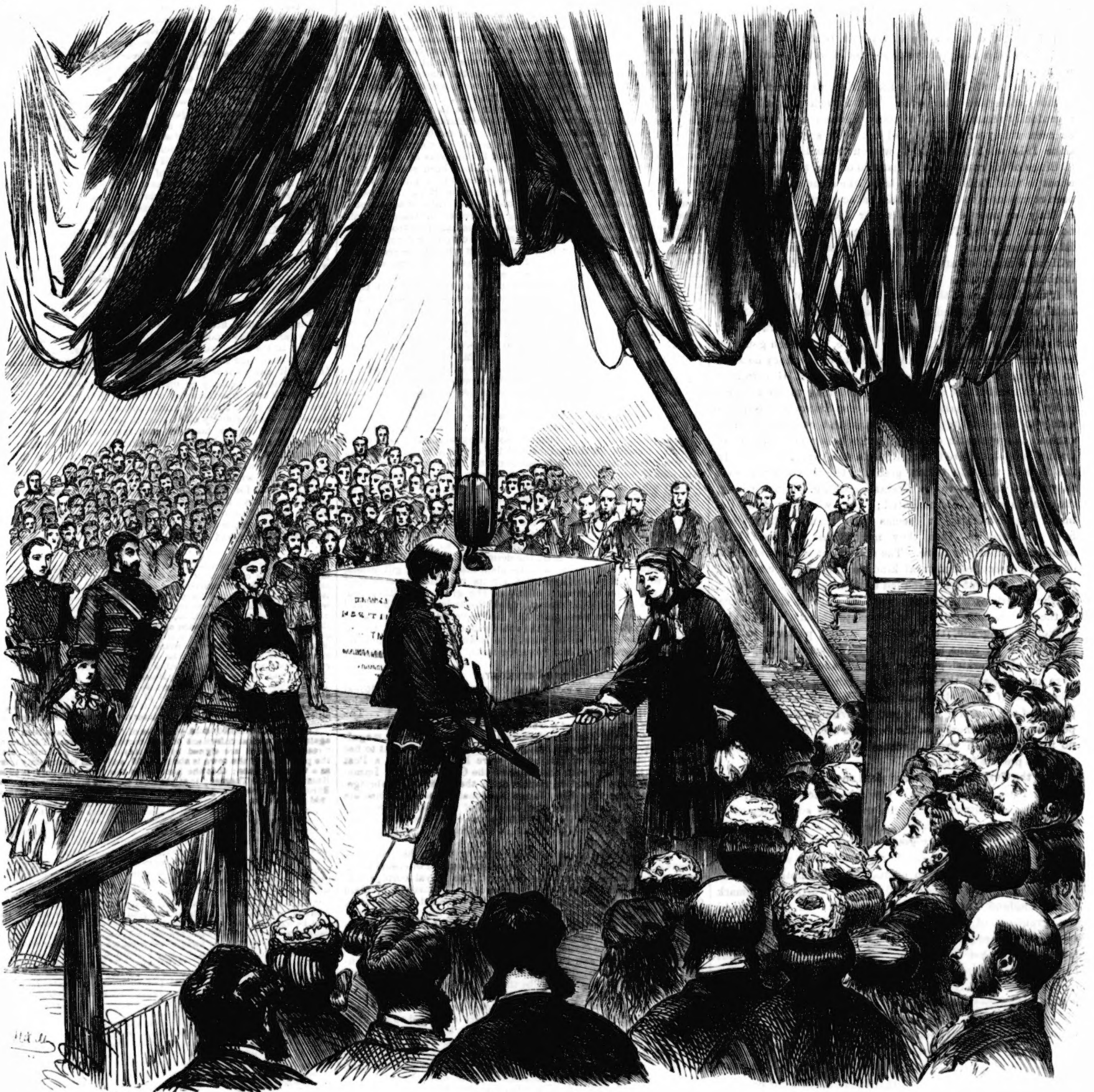
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**FOREIGN AFFAIRS.**

THE war-clouds having now—for a time, at least—been dispersed, the great object of European interest is once more the International Exhibition in Paris. The Prussian Ministerial papers continue to complain that France, in spite of declarations to the contrary, is still arming; and it appears that the intention, hastily attributed to the French Emperor, of reducing his military establishments, is not seriously entertained. We are not threatened with any immediate breach of

the peace, and if a rupture can be averted for any length of time it may be hoped that the bad feeling still existing between France and Prussia will gradually disappear. But, let us hope as we may, Germany seems all the same unwilling or unable to believe that the war is more than postponed. The supporters of Count Bismarck in particular appear convinced that, sooner or later, France and Prussia must do battle for the European, or at least the Continental, championship. If the great rival Powers are bent

on fighting, pretexts for going to war can easily be found. There are other federal fortresses besides Luxemburg which Prussia still garrisons, and which the French may maintain she has no right to occupy now that the Confederation has ceased to exist. It is less easy to see grounds on which Prussia might, if she thought fit, challenge France—always excepting the question of armament, which, as Prussia herself has taught us, may be made a cause of quarrel when no more valid one can be discovered.



HER MAJESTY LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE ALBERT HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, SOUTH KENSINGTON.



As regards the Luxemburg treaty, which ought now to be on the point of being ratified, it is remarkable how very easily the signatures to it were obtained. The peace party look upon the result as a triumph for their cause; but if France and Prussia, or either of those Powers, had been prepared for war, the result might, unfortunately, have been something very different. We should be glad to think that the great rivals who are separated by the Rhine listened at the Conference to the voice of reason, and to that only. This would mark a most wonderful progress in political morality since the war of last year, which could certainly not have been prevented by any number of conferences. The arrangement that has been come to, however, has very much the air of a temporary one. Lord Derby has pointed out the fact that the guarantee is only "collective," and "does not impose upon this country any special and separate duty of enforcing its provisions." This is in one point of view a very satisfactory assurance indeed, for it relieves us from all fear of having to fight for Luxemburg. But it has also the effect of lessening, in a very considerable degree, the importance of the settlement arrived at. If all the Powers who signed the treaty had pledged themselves to defend the neutrality of Luxemburg, there would have been very little chance of any one of those Powers making an attack upon it. But the "collective guarantee" actually entered into does not, according to Lord Derby's interpretation, bind us except for just so long a time as the other signatories choose to be bound by it—that is to say, if any one Power should be unwilling to fulfil its obligations in respect to Luxemburg, the other Powers will be at liberty to consider themselves exonerated from theirs. In reality, diplomacy has not given us a peace, but only a truce. The neutrality of Luxemburg, is guaranteed in such a manner that the guarantee is next to worthless; and the fortifications of Luxemburg are to be destroyed in such a manner that the place will be almost as strong after the pretended destruction as it is now. But, in spite of all this, peace has been preserved, and this is a positive good—for however short a time we may enjoy it.

In the meanwhile the Paris Exhibition, as we were saying, is more attractive than ever. The French journalist who ingeniously remarked that so many crowned heads as would be seen this year in Paris had not been seen there before since 1815, might have added, without wounding the susceptibilities of his countrymen, that two of the Sovereigns now about to visit Paris could not claim, like some others, to have been represented in 1815 by their predecessors. The kingdom of Italy, as now constituted under Victor Emmanuel, did not exist; nor had Turkey any existence in its present semi-Europeanised form. The visit of the Sultan to the Exhibition will be a mark of attention which the French nation will doubtless appreciate.

If the departure of the Sultan, however, is not to take place until he has succeeded in establishing some sort of order in his own home, years and years may pass and the Parisians yet not set eyes on him. Things, to be sure, have been going on badly in Turkey for a long time past, but of late they do seem to have gone on rather worse than usual. A Government may ruin itself either by making concessions to its subjects or by refusing to make them; and the Sultan seems alternately to have been trying both plans and carrying both to excess. A systematic attempt is now being made to break up the Turkish empire through Servia and through Crete. In the face of this the Sultan grants to the Servians whatever they please to ask—to the Cretans, nothing. Consequently, the Servians are discontented; for, whatever they demand and obtain, it seems to them, when they have obtained it, that they might just as well have demanded something more. The discontent of the Cretans is of a more direct and natural kind, and has been occasioned, first, by the grievances which led to their rebellion; secondly, by the severities which have been its natural consequence. If the Sultan had refused to evacuate the ancient Turkish citadel of Belgrade, the Servians would perhaps at this moment be in arms against his Government, though the presence of a Turkish garrison in Belgrade might, of course, have had precisely the effect of restraining them. On the other hand, if the Sultan had lent a willing ear to the complaints of the Cretans, they would now be as virtually independent of his authority as the Servians are. There would be no insurrection in Crete, because there would not be the slightest pretext for rising.

Why the Turkish Government yield so much to the Servians and so little to the Cretans it would be difficult to say; but, probably, the attitude of foreign Powers has something to do with it. Leave the Sultan to himself and he would yield nothing; but when every great Power in Europe, including, at the last moment, England, pressed him to withdraw his garrison from the Servian capital, he had nothing to do but to groan and withdraw it. It is worthy of remark that England has, hitherto, refused to recommend the granting of any concessions to the Cretans; and, as if in consequence thereof, the Sultan maintains a firm attitude, and sends Omar Pacha to coerce them. But here it seems to us that England herself is to blame. The Government of Earl Russell was inclined to help Greece (witness the annexation of the Ionian Islands to that kingdom) and was opposed to the pretensions of Servia. The present Government favours Servia, but will not hear of the power of Greece being increased by the annexation to it of the Island of Crete. Both Governments may be right, and both wrong; but, between them, it is certain that the effect of their counsels upon the policy of the Sultan must be most disastrous.

### THE NEW HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

On Monday morning her Majesty so far broke through the seclusion which she has observed for some years past as to be present at a great public ceremonial not absolutely connected with her high state functions. The occasion, however, was one which not only warranted, but almost demanded, such a departure from her late mode of life, for it was to add all the solemnity of state to the commencement of a building destined to perpetuate, in a most enduring form, the services which the late Prince Consort rendered to the advancement of science and art. The reappearance of her Majesty in public, and the cause itself which drew her forth from her retirement, made the occasion one of special interest. Every preparation which could conduce to the success of the ceremonial was most carefully made, and every precaution taken to ensure what may be called the popular appreciation of the plan. The results amply justified the means taken to secure them. The laying of a foundation-stone, no matter by whom or where, is always, of necessity, a routine ceremony of the most formal kind. That of Monday did not differ much in this respect from others that have gone before it, yet it is not too much to say that a more brilliant ceremony of the kind, or one which passed off more smoothly from first to last, even the Queen herself has never presided at.

#### THE PREPARATIONS.

The site chosen for the intended building is on the land belonging to the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, on the north side of the Royal Horticultural Gardens, and just in front of the Albert Memorial. The whole of the space to be occupied by the building was covered in on Monday. In fact, the gigantic marquee which inclosed the ground represented almost precisely the area which the building itself will occupy. This huge tent—tinted with a connected structure may be called—was built in three large bays, each division being supported by light wooden columns and cross framing pieces, very similar to the plan of railway stations, save only that the covering was entirely of canvas, stretched so tightly as to almost resemble a ceiling. Round the wooden columns large clusters of flags were grouped at the summits, and draperies composed of the same kind of banners hung over the sides of the marquee. This arrangement was made with the view of raising the drapery when the inclosure was filled to admit a current of air; but, as not unfrequently happens on these occasions, this fact was entirely overlooked till the atmosphere was almost stifling. Round this inclosure seats for nearly 7000 visitors were ranged in a sort of oval amphitheatre, rising tier above tier, and down the centre inclined paths led to give free access to the various ranges of seats. At the upper end of this great canvas structure the velvet and gold canopy and throne used at the opening of the Exhibition of 1862 had been erected, and all beneath and around this was richly carpeted. On the left of this were the places arranged for the members of the Royal family and household, and on a lower dais, similarly fitted up, were the inclosures allotted to Ambassadors and members of her Majesty's Ministry. Between these, at the corners, pretty little parterres of flowers had been, as it were, built in among the seats; so that even before anyone had entered the marquee its appearance was as pretty and effective as the most assiduous care and tasteful arrangement could make it for the time.

The hour fixed for the arrival of visitors was, to say the least, an early one, considering what a fashionable attendance was expected; yet, long before the hour stipulated on the cards of invitation, almost every place was occupied. As a matter of course, the ladies were the first to take their places and fill the rows of chairs with such a bright array of toilets as has seldom been seen in such profusion. It may possibly interest lady readers to know that the prevailing tints were white and green; and the Royal Princesses, Louise and Beatrice, added to the majority of those who adopted these popular colours by appearing in dresses of sea-green silk trimmed with Honiton lace. The space immediately in front of the lower dais was reserved for the mayors and corporate dignitaries of London and the great provincial towns; and when these seats were filled the robes of scarlet, fur, and ermine presented a most striking contrast to the bright, cool, light attire of the ladies around. Almost among the first visitors of distinction to arrive were Lord and Lady Derby. They came from the back of the marquee and passed down its centre. His Lordship wore the Ministerial uniform, and the moment he appeared he was greeted with cheers and applause, far more continued and universal than those which any other statesman received, and which, indeed, were second only to the reception accorded to her Majesty. So also, as they arrived, did Mr. Disraeli and Lord Stanley meet with a cordial welcome. The other members of the Cabinet passed quite unnoticed, possibly because their features were less familiar to the audience or their names less intimately associated at present with great public questions. Only those who were more or less officially connected with the ceremony appeared in uniform or Court dress; all other visitors, no matter of what rank, wearing plain morning costume. Of course, according to the etiquette usual on such occasions, all the members of the diplomatic body appeared *en grande tenue*, and the seats assigned to the Ambassadors and Ministers of foreign Powers, when filled, were a blaze of decorations. Almost without exception the foreign Ministers were present, M. Van de Weyer being the first to arrive, and M. Musurus the last.

Mr. Charles Lucas and Mr. Thomas Lucas, the builders of the hall, and—to use the words of the address which was presented by the Prince of Wales to her Majesty—through whose liberality it is mainly owing that the work has been begun so soon, kept their places with Colonel Scott, R.E., the designer of the building, near the foundation-stone. This, with its plain inscription in gilt letters, suspended over the spot appointed for its reception, was almost equal in attraction apparently to any of the great notabilities present. All were seated by eleven, when the indescribable buzz and hum of conversation arose gradually till it swelled at last into what was almost noise. There was the usual subdued merriment, too, at mistakes made when ladies with blue tickets insisted on getting into "white seats," or into "orange seats," without any tickets at all.

#### THE CEREMONY.

Shortly after eleven a carriage and four, containing their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and Major Teesdale, drove up to the entrance in Kensington-road. The Prince wore the uniform of a General in the Army, with the collar of the Order of the Garter, and carried in his hand a most magnificent bouquet which he had brought from Paris as a present to her Majesty. The Duke of Edinburgh wore his uniform as a Post Captain in the Navy, with the collar of the Garter over it. Immediately after these illustrious visitors came the Duke of Cambridge, attended by Colonel the Hon. James Macdonald; and in immediate succession the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Prince Arthur, who wore the uniform of a Woolwich cadet, arrived. Both the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh were much cheered on entering.

At half-past eleven, with that punctuality which has certainly always distinguished her Majesty, the distant sound of cheers along the park announced that she was coming. The Royal cortege was escorted by a detachment of Life Guards. It consisted of plain open carriages and four, with outriders in the so-called Ascot liveries, once so familiar, but now so seldom seen. The first carriages contained the members of the Royal suite. In that immediately preceding her Majesty was his Royal Highness Prince Christian. In the carriage with the Queen were their Royal Highnesses Princesses Louise and Beatrice and Prince Leopold. The latter wore a Highland costume; but both the Princesses were, as we have already said, attired in what seemed to be the popular colours of the day—green and white. The Queen was dressed in the deepest mourning, wearing a plain widow's cap and a dark crape mantle. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh at once advanced to meet her on alighting, the former presenting, with a low bow, the magnificent bouquet he had brought with him. The Queen, as she took it, kissed him most affectionately, and at once passed into the marquee. All there had risen to receive her. She was welcomed with the most earnest cheers, waving of handkerchiefs, and clapping of hands. Her Majesty, who looked in excellent health, advanced, with the stately grace which is almost peculiar to her, to the edge of the

raised dais, and curtsied slowly and deeply, first to the right, then to the left, and then to the distinguished guests immediately in front of her, while the band of the Royal Italian Opera-house, under Mr. Costa, began the National Anthem, which the professional choir sang magnificently to the end of the second verse. Then there was a slight pause while her Majesty turned to speak a few words to most of the distinguished noblemen and gentlemen around. The Prince of Wales then advanced to the front of the dais and read the following short address. In such a structure the voice of his Royal Highness was, of course, very indistinctly heard, but those nearest to her Majesty could hear him well and also observe how much the Queen seemed moved by the earnest tones in which the Prince alluded to his late illustrious father. This address ran thus:—

May it please your Majesty.—The report which, as president of the Provisional Committee of the Hall of Arts and Sciences, I have the honour to lay before your Majesty, will be found to contain a brief outline of the origin and progress of the undertaking to the present time. It is not necessary for me to remind your Majesty that the building of which you are graciously pleased to lay the first stone to-day is one of the results of the Exhibition of 1851, and that it forms a prominent feature in the scheme contemplated by my dear father for perpetuating the success of that Exhibition by providing a common centre of union for the various departments of science and art. I cannot doubt that to your Majesty the events of this day, with their manifold associations, must be full of mournful interest. For myself, I need not say that, sharing those feelings, it is also with gratification that I find myself co-operating in the endeavour to give effect to a plan which had commended itself to the judgment of my father. Your Majesty's presence to-day will be the best encouragement to us to persevere in the work and render it in all respects worthy of the objects for which it is designed.

To this her Majesty made the following reply, but, contrary to her usual habit, in so low a tone of voice as to be scarcely audible even to those nearest her:—

I thank you for your affectionate and dutiful address. It has been with a struggle that I have nerved myself to a compliance with the wish that I should take part in this day's ceremony; but I have been sustained by the thought that I should assist by my presence in promoting the accomplishment of his great designs to whose memory the gratitude and affection of the country are now rearing a noble monument, which I trust may yet look down on such a centre of institutions for the promotion of art and science as it was his fond hope to establish here. It is my wish that this hall should bear his name to whom it will have owed its existence, and be called "The Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences."

The Prince then presented an address adopted by the provisional committee, of which his Royal Highness is chairman, but which, being of unusual length, and having also been made public before, was taken as read, and the Queen simply handed it to Mr. Gathorne Hardy, who, as Home Secretary, stood close by her, on the left.

Preceded by Messrs. Charles and Thomas Lucas and Colonel Scott, her Majesty then descended to the spot where the stone was to be laid, and with her own hands poured in a collection of new coins, and closed the glass vessel, in which she placed them, to be deposited beneath it. Then, assisted by Mr. Charles Lucas, who handed her a magnificent trowel of solid gold, while Mr. Thomas Lucas and Colonel Scott placed the cement beneath the stone, her Majesty proceeded to spread the mortar evenly and neatly. Amid a loud Royal flourish of trumpets, and the distant booming of a salute of twenty-one guns from the park, the polished block of granite was lowered into its place. Again assisted by the Messrs. Lucas, the Queen, with a plummet and line, tested the accuracy of the block's adjustment, and, striking it with an ivory hammer, declared it "well and truly fixed," amid loud and prolonged cheering. The Archbishop of Canterbury then offered up a short prayer, and the band and chorus proceeded to deliver the vocal and instrumental music of a composition by the late Prince Consort, entitled "L'Invocazione all' Armonia." The solo tenor parts were given by Signor Mario with beautiful distinctness and effect, and her Majesty, while passing from the building, stopped where he stood and thanked him. The remaining verses of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close; and, attended by all who were admitted to the upper and lower dais, the Queen passed through the great marquee amid enthusiastic applause, which at short intervals she stopped to acknowledge by curtsying deeply to the right and left. After leaving the marquee, her Majesty passed into the conservatory of the Royal Horticultural Gardens, and thence through the West Arcade, where a beautiful collection of plants had been laid out for her inspection. The whole stay in the garden, however, was very brief, and at the Prince's Gate of the gardens the whole of the Royal party entered their carriage, and left in the same order in which they had arrived.

Up to that time the weather had been all that could be wished. In fact, it was what is popularly known as "Queen's weather," and it seemed to be specially so on this occasion, for her Majesty certainly took the sunshine away with her. Hardly had she been gone five minutes when the little drizzle turned to a torrent, and the usual scene produced by every one trying to get away at the same time at once ensued. It was, however, past four o'clock before the grounds were quite empty, and by that time those who were so unfortunately delayed were in such a condition as to make it a matter of indifference to them what was the state of the weather.

The hall of which her Majesty thus laid the foundation-stone is to be available for the following objects:—Congresses, both national and international, for purposes of science and art; performances of music, distribution of prizes by public bodies, conversations for the promotion of science and art; agricultural, horticultural, and industrial exhibitions; and displays of pictures and sculpture.

**THE GREAT EASTERN—MEETING OF THE CREDITORS.**—A private meeting of the creditors of the Great Eastern Steamship Company, on account of the French charterers, was held, on Monday, in the Law Association Rooms, Liverpool. The position of affairs would appear to be even worse than has hitherto been represented. It was stated that the French company had disbursed £293,000, that their liabilities were £153,000, and that their assets might be taken at £53,000. It should be understood, however, that Messrs. Forrester's claim was £54,000, and that they have a lien on a portion of the fittings on board valued at £22,000. The meeting considered—first, whether or not the charter to the French company was a regular one; and, secondly, whether or not the Great Eastern Steamship Company had a right to invest in Messrs. Forrester any preferential claim. The creditors will most probably get 8d. in the pound only, and that after considerable delay. An agent of the French company, who was to have met the creditors last week, has, it was stated, not come forward with an explanation, or, in fact, had any interview with the creditors at all.

**THE FREIGHT BOROUGH.**—A series of "reasons" have been circulated against the disfranchisement of the borough of Great Yarmouth. The "reasons," which are signed by the Mayor (Mr. S. R. Yonell), state that the population of the town is about 40,000, and that it is rapidly increasing as a watering-place; that the harbour is the principal port between the Humber and the Thames; that the local fisheries are the most extensive in Europe; that the borough has returned two members to Parliament since 1296, and that its large population and important public and local interests require such representation; that the new electors entitled to be registered under the Government Reform Bill would be 4580; and that the untainted electors, computed under the proposed extension of the franchise at 6000, and the whole community represented by them, ought not to be perpetually deprived of the franchise because of the misconduct of a few whose venality they discouraged and deplored, but could not control. It is also submitted that in the history of Parliament no place of approachable magnitude, or where the unimpeachable electors preponderate in anything like the same ratio as in Great Yarmouth, has ever been disfranchised.

**"MALIGNUS SCRIBENDUS."**—At a late meeting of the Bethnal-green board of guardians a complaint was read from a pauper named Panmuir that he was not allowed to go out of the house by the guardians, as other paupers were. Dr. Markham, the medical poor-law inspector, happening to be present, is reported to have asked what was the matter with the man. The chairman replied that he was afflicted with the *malignus scribens* (Laughter). Dr. Markham—"With what?" The chairman—"The *malignus scribens*," and he is under the care of the medical officer" (Renewed laughter). Dr. Markham—"Oh! I understand" (Repeated laughter). He had been writing to the Poor-Law Board and making complaints of being robbed of his liberty. This is the *malignus scribens*—a malady much dreaded and punished by guardians, and one of the most terrible with which a pauper can be afflicted. It is apparently an undescribed form of the *cacochres*—a malady not unknown in other classes of society, and, it must be confessed, one apt to render the sufferers objects of terror to their friends, and which causes them to be shunned by the community at large. They are especially dreaded and tabooed by official persons, whom they sometimes worry into extreme irritability, and sometimes greatly alarm, by the unseasonable display of their unpleasant disease. But probably it is only in a poorhouse that the extreme measure of continual incarceration is considered a necessary and fitting treatment.—*British Medical Journal*.



## Foreign Intelligence.

## FRANCE.

An arrangement has been come to between the French Government and the committee of the Corps Législatif on the army organisation scheme. The committee have agreed that the effective force of the army shall be fixed, as demanded by the Government, at 800,000 men, and the Government consent that the annual military contingent shall be voted by the Corps Législatif.

The French people do not appear to believe that peace is positively assured. All kinds of speculations are afloat as to new causes of quarrel. One which needs only to be named to be dismissed is the Prussian occupation of the fortress of Rastadt. Another and a much more likely cause is to be found, say rumours, in questions arising out of the fulfilment of the Treaty of Prague. It is said that France and Austria are drawing closer together, and that Russia, too—jealous of Prussia—is cultivating closely the friendship of France. Most likely there is very little of truth in all these statements. But that they should be talked of is some evidence of the uneasiness of the public mind.

## SPAIN.

After a long discussion the Spanish Senate has passed the bill indemnifying the Ministers for their late unconstitutional proceedings by 122 against 64 votes.

## ITALY.

The King received a deputation from the Chamber of Deputies the other day to congratulate him on the marriage of the Prince Amadeus and to express their gratitude for his Majesty's renunciation of four millions of his civil list. The King, in his reply, adverted to the present condition of Italy and Europe, and said that he had welcomed with pleasure the Treaty of London, in which he was happy that Italy had participated. "Nevertheless," he said, "we must form no illusions. Other complications may arise from at present unforeseen events. We shall be fortunate if in this period of peace we succeed in reorganising the finances. The conditions of improvement are only courage and perseverance."

Intelligence from Rome to the 19th inst. states that, after the last Consistory, the Cardinals decided upon appointing a term within which Cardinal Andrea should be called upon to make his defence. Should he fail to comply with this order by the expiration of that term, he would be condemned in *contumaciam*, and sentenced to forfeit his right of voting in the Sacred College and at the Conclave. It is asserted that at another meeting the Cardinals were of opinion the financial conversion of Church property proposed by Italy was an inevitable necessity.

## AUSTRIA.

The Emperor opened the Reichsrath in person on Wednesday. In his speech his Majesty renewed his pledges to govern the country on Constitutional principles, and recounted how promising were the prospects of success in his coming to an agreement with Hungary, and he urged the Reichsrath to forget old grievances and help him to reunite his kingdom. He pointed out the difficulties he had to overcome, and begged that laws might be passed which should assist in cementing a firm reconciliation between Hungary and the other nationalities of the empire.

In the Upper House the opening speech was delivered by the President, Prince von Allersberg. He adverted to the manner in which late events have weighed upon Austria, and said that new bases of public law must be established. "We must attain," he added, "an undisturbed state of constitutional right in order that the belief of the people in their political privileges may be strengthened, and in order that among them the consciousness may revive that their destinies rest in a just proportion in their own hands. A prosperous issue is only possible through union. All political parties should earnestly unite in the thought that the object in view is to render Austria great and powerful."

In the Lower House the President, Herr Giskra, in his opening speech, referred to the period during which the Constitution had been suspended, and reminded the House that it had difficult duties to perform; that the principles of equal rights for all nationalities and all religious denominations, as well as real Constitutional government, must become realities. He also declared that the compromise with Hungary must, in an equitable form, be carried out in both portions of the empire.

## RUSSIA.

Intelligence from Central Asia states that the Russians have abandoned their intention of destroying the forts captured by them at Jeejukh and Aktippa, and of falling back on the line of the Jaxartes, and have determined to occupy them as well as Khokand. In consequence of this invasion of Central Asia by the Russians some of the Khans have thrown off their allegiance to the Ameer and have established independent Sovereignities in their respective territories.

## TURKEY.

The Turkish Government has prepared for promulgation the following reforms:—The reorganisation of the financial system, the creation of a new Council of State, a reform of the military schools, the change of all provinces into *villajets*, the granting to foreigners the right of land tenure, the improvement of the regulations respecting the tenure of the *Vacouf* property, and the reformation of the procedure in the judicial courts.

Seven of the Cretan delegates have left Constantinople suddenly, without coming to terms with the Porte. They have addressed a protest to the Legation stating that they were brought there against their will, and that they are entirely without powers from the Christian population of Crete.

Intelligence as to the course of events in Crete is exceedingly contradictory. One telegram from Constantinople announces that Omar Pacha has been thrice repulsed in a great attack made on the insurgents at Spahia; while a second despatch, marked official, states that Omar Pacha had informed the Porte that two engagements had taken place between the Turks and the Greek volunteers, in which the latter were completely defeated. The Greek telegrams announcing that the Turks were defeated are denounced as false.

## THE UNITED STATES.

At the date of our last advice from New York Mr. Jefferson Davis was stated to be about to proceed to Canada to join his family.

At Chicago the troubles arising out of the eight-hour movement were subsiding, and work had been resumed in a large number of establishments, in some of which the employees are working on the old ten-hour system with no change in the wages; while in others they are working eight hours, with 20 per cent reduction.

A negro mob at Richmond has rescued from the police a negro who had been arrested for fighting. Two policemen were beaten. The negroes having mustered in large force, the police were concentrated. A squad of Federal troops finally cleared the streets and restored order. The negroes were greatly incensed at the action of the troops.

The wheat crop in North Carolina promises well, but the crops generally throughout the west and south are greatly damaged by floods.

The greater part of the plantations south of Memphis are flooded, and the planters are starving.

The French Government have purchased the ram Dunderburg.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

By the Cape of Good Hope mail we learn that the colony is greatly dissatisfied with the proposal to withdraw the Imperial troops, and petitions against the proceeding were being prepared at Cape Town. The frontier press demand that if the forces be withdrawn Imperial interference with colonial affairs should cease. The renewal of the war between the Free State and the Basutos was considered as very probable.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES have elected M. Nisard to the place left vacant by the late M. Cousin in the Commission of the Historical Dictionary of the French language.

## THE DERBY OF 1867.

THE Derby Day in 1867 will long be remembered by all turfmen, not only by reason of the astounding vicissitudes in the betting, but for the triumph of "poor Hermit," as he was derisively called only a few days since, when his chance seemed forlorn indeed. The air on the Downs from noon was at times piercingly raw and cold, and the holiday-makers were suggestively silent by the time they reached Epsom. In fact, the "third winter" evidently froze the general current of gaiety. Beyond all doubt, the Derby Day of this year, as far as company was concerned, was one of the most dull and dispiriting on record, and the forest of umbrellas that cropped up in every direction showed that the visitors had sensibly come prepared for the worst. Spectators who stood about for any time got fairly chilled, and in the saddling-paddock those waiting the arrival of the favourites buffeted their hands for warmth, and thus accelerated the circulation of their blood.

The first race, the Bentinck Plate, as usual, like the opening piece on Boxing Night, was almost totally disregarded, and was won after a desperate finish by a head. The Derby was set for three o'clock, there being no fewer than thirty starters; but No. 9, "poor Plaudit," was scratched at 10.23, and his place was taken conveniently by Distin, who was the only one not inserted in Dorling's list of probable runners. The crowd in the saddling-paddock was by no means so large as on many previous occasions, and, as usual, all thoughts seemed concentrated upon the great favourites. Vauban, Uncas, and Distin were paraded with young John Day and several other Danebury attachés at their sides, monopolising almost all the attention of the spectators. The Hermit, who was by himself, was almost entirely disregarded, and seemed to shiver with the cold. A few people asked "What's that?" and when informed it was The Hermit contemptuously observed "Oh!" and passed on. Though the majority of the public entirely overlooked The Hermit, Captain Machell (Mr. Chaplin's confederate) was quietly giving instructions to Daley, who was "put on" by Captain Machell £300 if he were one of the first three, and £3000 if he won, to which Mr. Chaplin added £6000, making in the whole £9000. In the paddock nothing looked better than The Palmer, Vauban, Fitz-Ivan, and Van Amburgh. The Palmer was in superb condition. His party were wonderfully sanguine; and, such was the favour for the horse, that, when Wells took off his topcoat and displayed the cherry satin, he was greeted with immense cheering, an incident quite unusual at Epsom. Many persons were present in the enclosure for the express purpose of inspecting the fallen Rake; but he was not in the paddock, being saddled and mounted near Sherwood's cottage. Marksman also was saddled elsewhere. Thirty horses went to the post, precisely the same number as in Gladiateur's and Blair Athol's years, and four more than in the past anniversary, when Lord Lyon was victorious.

As usual, while the animals were "under orders" great excitement was manifested, and the preliminary canterers were watched with extraordinary curiosity, the style in which the attractive chestnut Marksman galloped and the bright coats of Vauban and The Palmer eliciting general admiration, while The Hermit was almost unobserved, so totally had the public mind become alienated from him by recent market operations. When the lot got to the post three-quarters of an hour elapsed before they were dispatched on their eventful journey, but the interest attaching to the actual start was considerably marred by the delay and the biting wind, sleet, and snow which swept over the downs. There were at least half a score of false starts, and these were in some degree caused by the fractiousness of D'Estournel, who exhibited some of the wild freaks of Tambour Major a few years ago, despite the reports of his improved temper. In the meantime, the spectators were becoming so accustomed to the false starts that they were scarcely prepared for the tremendous shout of "They're off!" and the familiar clanking of the starting bell. From the second tremendous shout which followed it was evident that some favourite had been left at the post, and in an instant the animal was recognised in the now notorious D'Estournel, who reared up on his hind legs, and the moment the flag was lowered darted off in an entirely opposite direction, and actually attacked the people who were on the rails next the post. Approaching Tattenham Corner, The Rake and The Palmer looked formidable; but when they had made the turn they both died away, and, being closed in upon, their chances of success were hopeless. From the distance only Vauban, Marksman, The Hermit, and Van Amburgh appeared in the struggle, and loud cheers were raised when Marksman was seen on the "Thornaby side" of the course. On breasting the hill Vauban was beaten, and The Hermit won after a game and determined race, Grimshaw evidently acting up to the letter of his instructions, which were not to move upon his horse, which he rode with consummate patience and fine judgment. The Hermit, who held his place between Vauban and Marksman, was brought out with great judgment, and ridden throughout with wonderful patience by J. Daley.

Mr. Manning had expedited the weighing-out of those engaged in the Derby, and in consequence their numbers, with their respective riders, were speedily exhibited on the usual notice-board, and shortly after twenty-eight of the thirty competitors were seen leaving the paddock, Marksman and The Rake soon after meeting them, having been saddled at the Warren stables. Little or no time was lost in their preliminary canterers, in which those most interested took exception to several of their favourites. The lot were marshalled down to the starting-post by the veteran Starling, who delivered them in something like order into the custody of Mr. McGeorge. Upwards of an hour was lost before he could get them together, breaks away apparently being the order of the day. At last the patience of the spectators, the more sorely tried by several heavy showers, was rewarded by the welcome cry of "They're off!" and immediately after Julius, on the extreme right of his horses, was observed slightly in advance of Redbourne, Skysail, and Fitz Ivan, to whom succeeded Vauban, Marksman, The Corporal, Van Amburgh, The Rake, and Hermit. The next division had for their leaders Wild Moor, Owain Glyndwr, The Rescue, Tyndale, Man of Ross, Dragon, and The Palmer, the extreme rear being represented by Mr. Eastwood's pair, Taraban, the Amanda colt, and D'Estournel. The latter jumped round as the flag fell, and was left a long way in the rear, which mishap was further increased by the brute's bolting out of the course. During this contretemps the leaders held their way through the furies, but as they entered the old course Redbourne dropped away from the front, and his place was then taken by Skysail, who proceeded along the brow of the hill to the mile-post, at the girths of the Duke of Newcastle's colt, the pair being upwards of three lengths in advance of Vauban, on whose right were seen the colours of Wild Moor, Tyndale, Marksman, and The Rescue; and on the inside followed The Palmer, Hermit, and The Rake, the rear rank, even at this early period, having taken open order. Descending the hill for Tattenham-corner Julius was beaten, and Fordham indulged the favourite with a pull, which for a brief period gave to the race an open appearance, and let up Marksman on his right, who, with Van Amburgh, The Palmer, Wild Moor, and The Corporal, with his stable companion Tyndale, showed prominently in advance. At the road Vauban was seen clear of his horses, when his success was loudly proclaimed from the stands; but immediately after Fordham was seen to be hard upon his horse, and as they neared the distance he was joined on the whip hand by Marksman, and on the lower ground by Van Amburgh, J. Daley at this period holding his horse in reserve to the inclosure. At this point Van Amburgh was disposed of, which let up Hermit, who joined issue with Vauban and Marksman at the Stand; here the favourite was completely run out, leaving Mr. Merry's colt in advance; but Daley, riding with great determination to the end, was just enabled to get up in the last stride, and landed one of the most extreme outsiders a clever winner by a neck. Marksman, who ran a thoroughly game horse throughout, finished upwards of five lengths in advance of Vauban. Wild Moor was fourth, Van Amburgh fifth, Owain Glyndwr sixth, Tyndale seventh, The Palmer eighth, and The Corporal next. At the head of the next division, pulling up, were, headed by The Rake, Leases, Julius, and Gipsy King, to whom succeeded, at wide distances, The Rescue, Grand Cross, and Roquefort, the last three being Ben Nevis, the

Amanda colt, and Distin. The following is the time, as taken by Benson's chronograph:—Start, 3h. 52 min. 20 sec.; arrival, 3h. 55 min. 12 sec.; duration of race, 2 min. 52 sec. The time last year was 2 min. 49 sec.

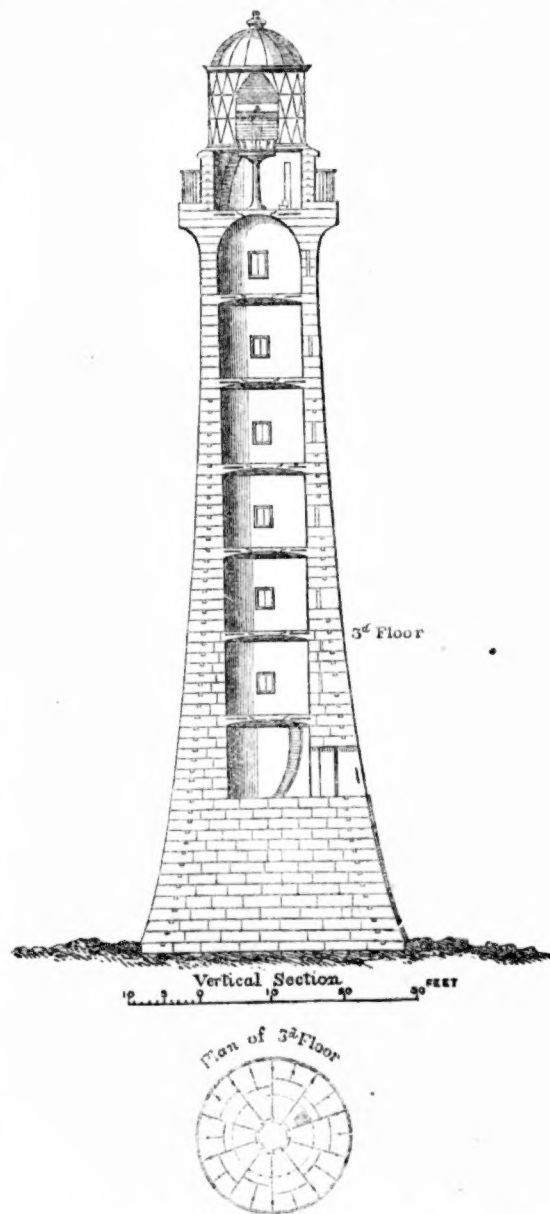
The winner (The Hermit) had been one of the favourites until Monday week, when he was reported to have been tried with Mr. Chaplin's recent purchase, Rama, and to have been not only worsted, but, like The Rake, to have broken a blood-vessel. He was then knocked out. On Wednesday his owner, Mr. Chaplin, accepted 1000 to 15, and his confederate, Captain Machell, backed him to win £10,000. Mr. Chaplin is said to have won £140,000, and Captain Machell £63,000. Mr. Chaplin also wins the leviathan bet of £50,000 that The Hermit would beat The Palmer the first time they met, and £10,000 that The Hermit would beat Marksman. Sir Joseph Hawley hedged The Hermit bet a few weeks ago. It is worthy of note that Custance resigned his claim upon The Hermit to ride The Rake, who has turned out a great impostor.

**SUICIDE IN A RAILWAY TUNNEL.**—A suicide of a very shocking character was committed on Monday morning in the Clayton tunnel of the London and Brighton Railway. When the 8 a.m. train from London to Brighton had got about a hundred yards within the tunnel, a respectably-dressed man, who had taken his seat in a second-class carriage at the Three Bridges station, suddenly opened the door and threw himself out, before his fellow-passengers had time to restrain him. On arrival at the next station the fact was telegraphed to Brighton, and a special engine was sent to the spot. The body of the unfortunate man was found divided into three parts, his head and one leg being completely separated from the trunk. The remains were taken to a public-house at Pyecombe, where they await identification and the coroner's inquest.

**THE CONSCIENCE CLAUSE.**—A return just laid before Parliament shows that since the beginning of the year 1861 down to the end of March, 1867, 954 applications have been before the Education Committee of Council for grants towards building schools, 867 of them for National or Church of England schools. The return states that in 829 cases the grants were made towards building national schools without any conscience clause being insisted on. It appears that in sixty-eight cases the refusal of the grant to national schools was met by the promoters agreeing to insert the clause; that in thirty-seven cases the refusal of the grant was maintained because the promoters would not insert the clause; and that in five cases the proposal of the Educational Department to insert a conscience clause has remained unanswered, and it is probable that a building grant has been abandoned. The return shows that in several cases where a building grant was refused on account of the absence of a conscience clause an annual grant has been paid or promised.

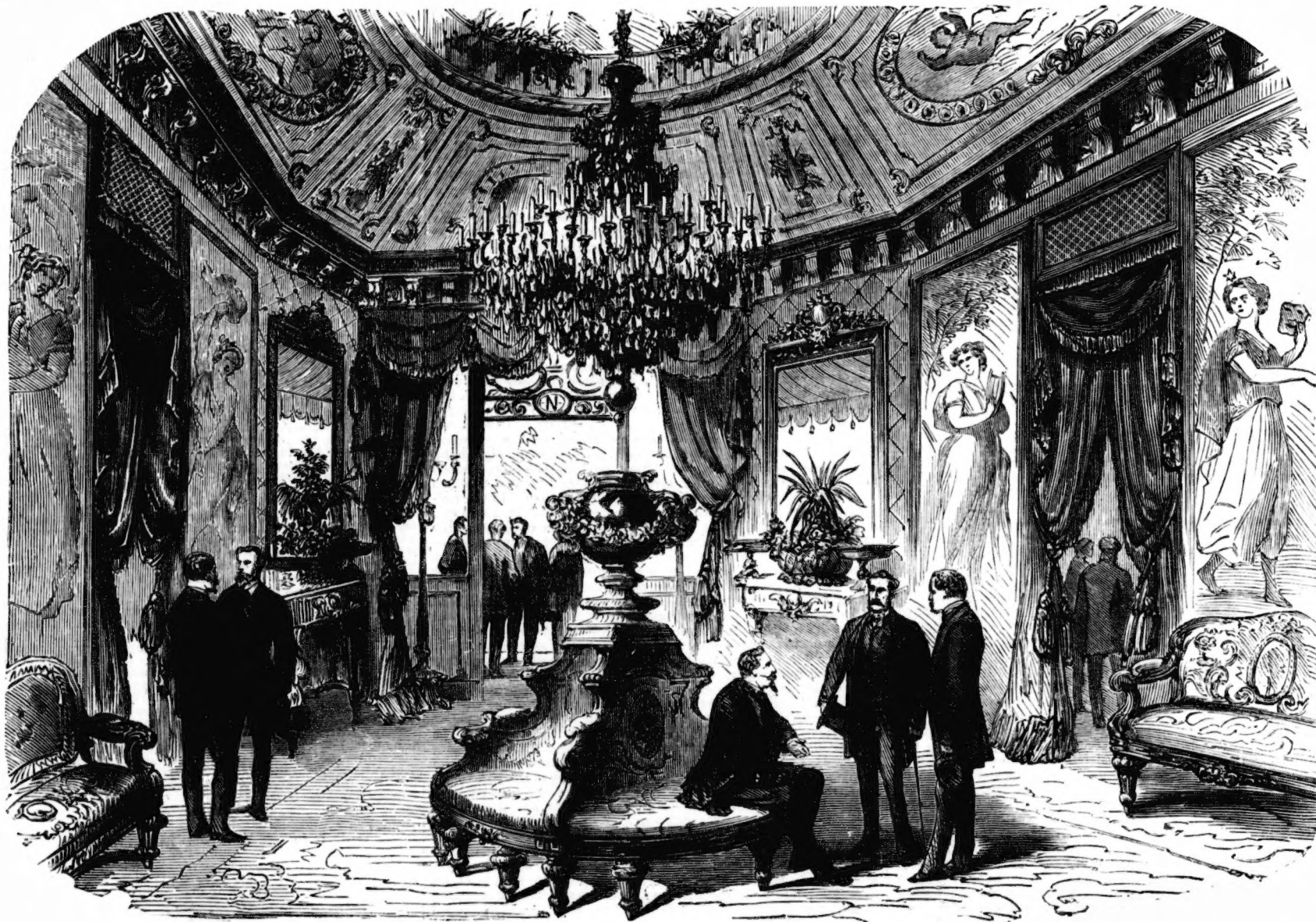
**A CURIOUS CUSTOM.**—The old-fashioned custom of "beating the bounds" was observed a day or two ago in the parish of Waddesdon, in Bucks, in a manner which will, we understand, result in legal proceedings. A party, as usual, perambulated the boundary of the parish, stopping at all the important points of junction. If at these places they caught some unlucky individual, and if the boundary line was marked by a wall or a tree, the aforesaid individual was "bumped" against it thrice. If there was nothing of the kind, then his head was placed in a hole cut in the turf, sundry slaps being at the same time administered to another part of the person; but his wounds were mollified by the application of certain horns of ale from a bottle carried for these and other persons. On the occasion referred to the party so far forgot themselves as to endeavour to remove a clergyman from his carriage and to practice this horsey play upon him. The parties excuse themselves by the belief that, on such occasions, they are empowered to operate upon whomsoever they please, and that, to use their own expression, "no law will touch them."

## DHU HEARTACH LIGHTHOUSE.



DHU HEARTACH ROCK lies about equidistant from the lighthouse of Rhins of Islay towards the S.S.W. and the Skerryvore Lighthouse (which lies 13 miles off the island of Tyree) to the N.N.W. The nearest lands to the rock are Islay, about 20 miles distant; Colonsay, about 15 miles; Iona, about 15 miles; and Mull, about 15 miles. The rock itself, which is an isolated mass of trap, is, according to the survey of Captain Bedford, R.N., about 80 yards long and 45 broad with a rounded top, which rises to 47 ft. above high-water mark. There are a few detached tide-covered hummocks lying to the W.N.W. of the main rock, which in all other directions is surrounded by deep water and rapid currents. The waves, even with a very small amount of roll from the westward, after breaking on its face, divide into two portions, which sweep round the north and south ends of the rock as separate waves, meet together on the eastern side, where they finally expend themselves by rising up to a





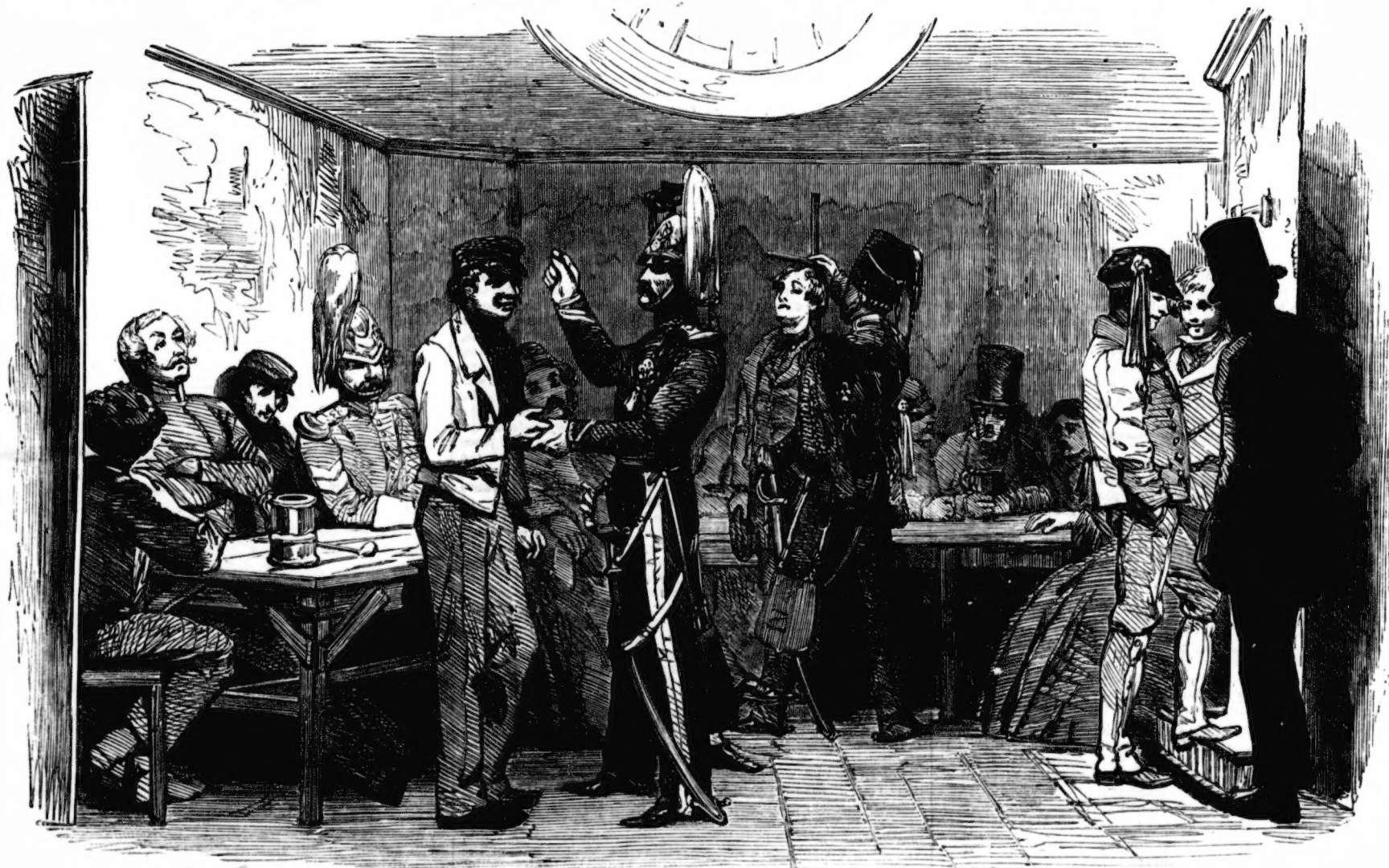
SALOON OF THE IMPERIAL PAVILION AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—SEE PAGE 333.

great height in a sheet of spray. It is, consequently, a very difficult rock to land at, so much so that on neither of the two first visits made by the engineer could any landing be effected. The sea in stormy weather passes right over the rock with great violence, large detached masses of rock having been found jammed between the crevices. Chains and other heavy pieces of wreck have been, at different times, found on Dhu Heartach Rock. But the greatest number of wrecks occurs on the Torrinn rocks—a shoal which extends about five miles seawards from the Mull shore. Were a lighthouse placed on Dhu Heartach it would enable vessels when overtaken by storms, or driven from their course to keep clear of all dangers, so as to run for shelter to Colonsay or the Sound of Islay. During the

gales of the winter of 1865-6 the large loss of life and property which took place in the district led to a resolution by the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses, with the sanction of the Trinity House of London and the Board of Trade, to erect a lighthouse on this formidable rock. The structure, which has been designed by Messrs. D. and T. Stevenson, the engineers to the Northern Lighthouse Commissioners, and which is estimated to cost £56,900, is represented in our Engravings. It consists of a parabolic frustum, the upper course of which is 109 ft. above the foundation. The diameter of the tower is 36 ft. at the bottom and 16 ft. at the top. There will be seven apartments besides the light-room. The light will be 154 ft. above the sea, commanding a range of about eighteen miles.

#### RECRUITING IN AUSTRIA.

ALTHOUGH the ranks of the armies on the Continent are generally filled up by conscription, it is occasionally necessary to have recourse to recruiting for certain corps, which are specially made up of picked men, and for which volunteers are always welcome. The process is carried on much after the same style as in England. There is a rendezvous, to which "spirited young men wishing to serve his Majesty" resort, and there they are measured, enrolled, and passed by the proper officials. "Lager beer" is freely circulated, and the neophytes, of course, become inflated with visions of honour and glory to be won on the field of battle. Our Engraving represents such a scene in an Austrian provincial town.



RECRUITING FOR THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.



NEW CHAPEL AT FULHAM PALACE.

On Monday, the 6th inst., the Bishop of London consecrated the new chapel which his Lordship has built at Fulham Palace, from designs by Mr. Butterfield.

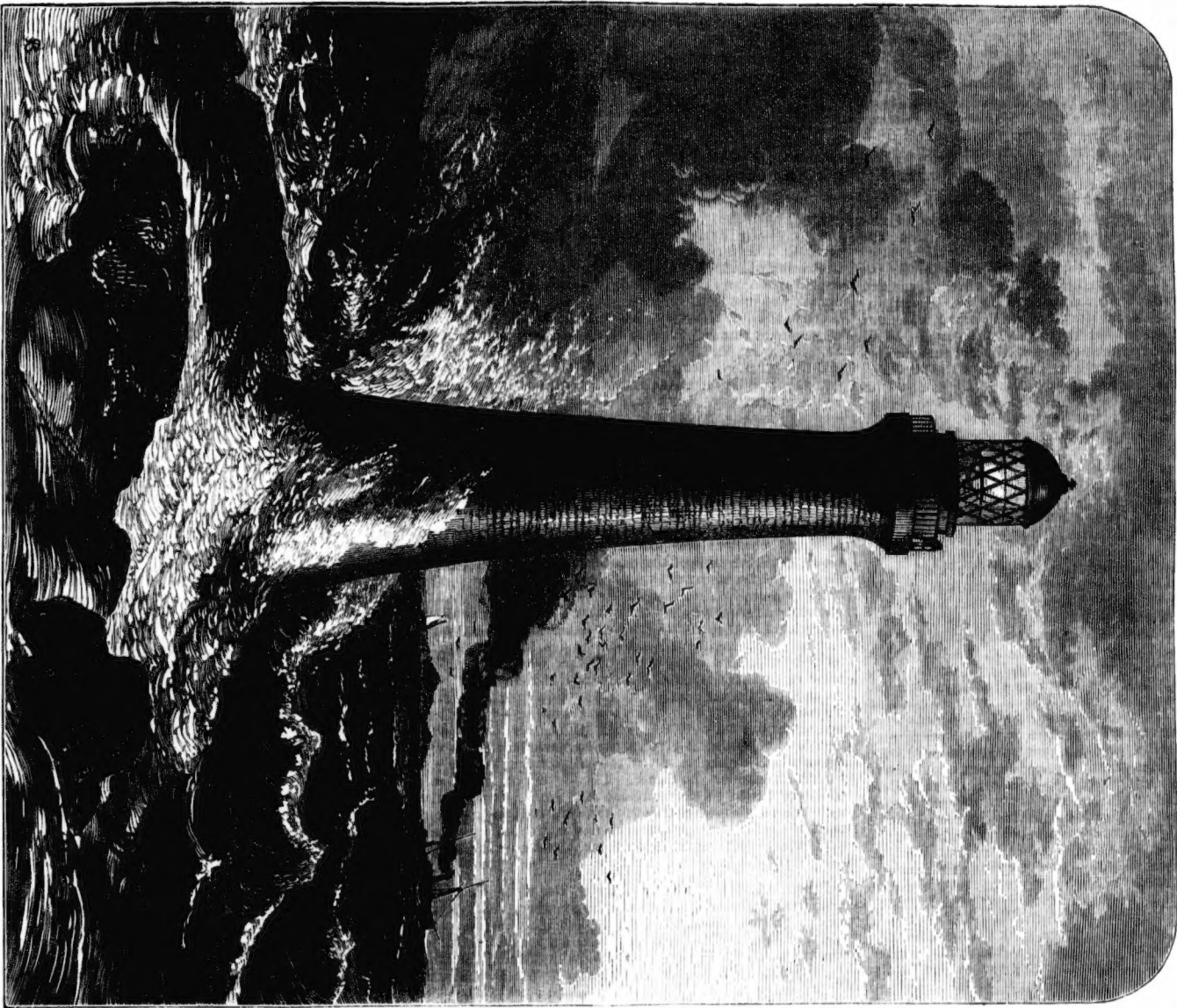
The chapel adjoins the older parts of Fulham Palace, which are of red brick, and is built of red brick and stone and covered with tiles. It stands on the river side of the palace, and is entered by a corridor or cloister from the

house, as well as directly from the garden. Its ground plan is that of an ordinary college chapel, and consists of ante-chapel and choir, divided from each other by an English oak screen, which is continued as panelling to the side walls to the extent of the choir seats. The walls which are not covered with oak wainscoting are finished with stone bricks, tiles, and marbles of several colours in patterns. The reredos, given by Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster, is a large mosaic executed at Venice by Salvati from

designs furnished to him, and represents the visit of the Shepherds to our Lord in the manger at Bethlehem. The east end is paved with the marble from the old chapel, formerly the hall. The chapel is lighted by four single-light windows at the west end, and an east window of three lights, with geometrical tracery, and north and south windows of two lights each at the east end. The north window has been filled with stained glass, representing St. John the Baptist and St. Stephen.

Two coronas for gas are provided. The Bishop's chair, the brass eagle, and the velvet cloth which covers the communion-table, are all gifts from various persons.

Shortly after half-past eleven o'clock on the day of the consecration a procession was formed in the ancient hall of the palace, which has been well restored by Mr. Butterfield, and contains some fine full-length portraits and other pictures. It had been used about forty



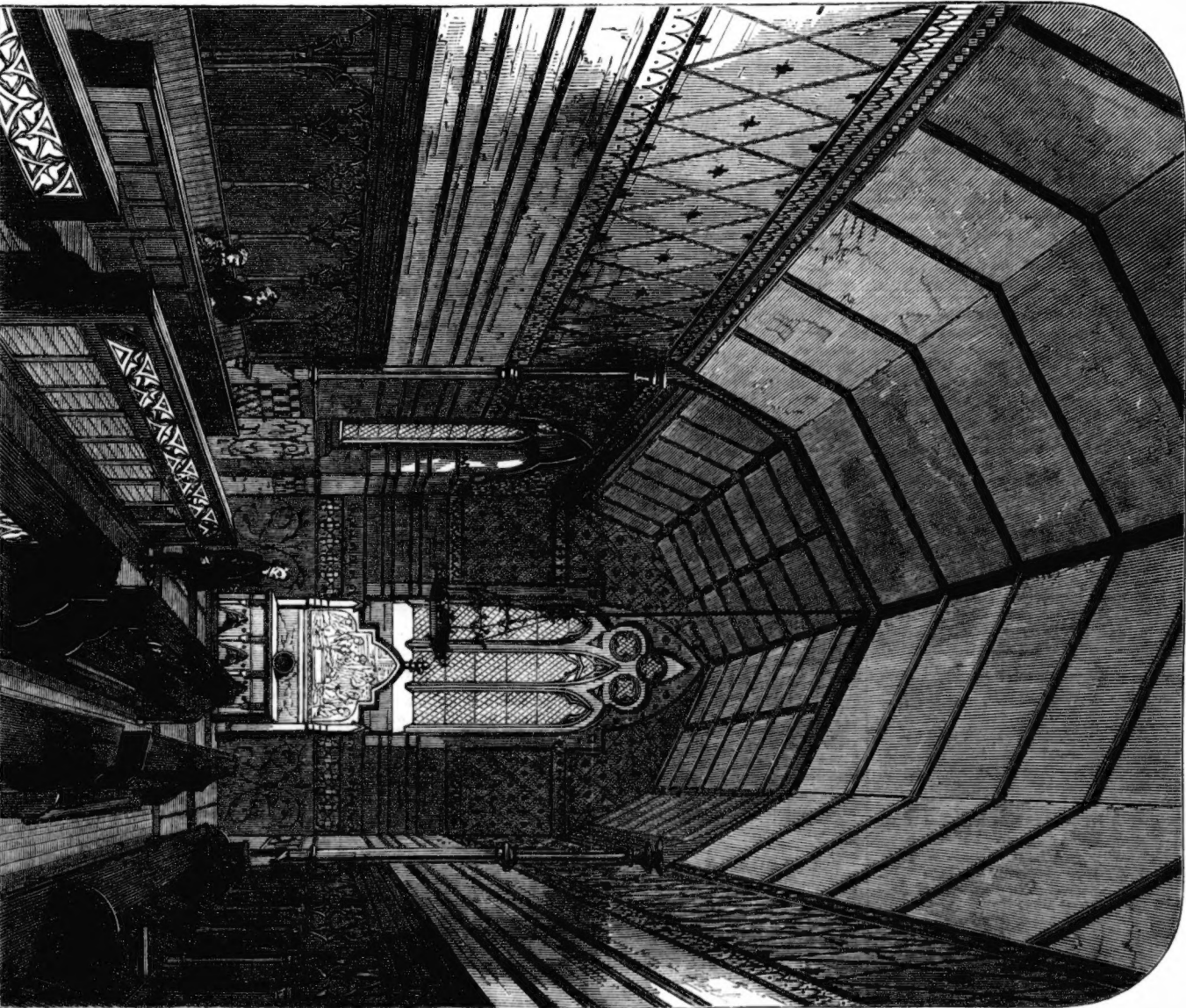
LIGHTHOUSE PROPOSED TO BE ERECTED ON DUT HEARACH ROCK, NORTH BRITAIN.—(D. AND T. STEVENSON, ENGINEERS.)

years as a chapel, but never consecrated as such. The hall has been floored with oak, and wainscoted with panelling from the old Court of Arches, held in the college, Doctors Commons, now being pulled down. A new chimneypiece of oak and marble has been erected, and the room now constitutes a very important and handsome addition to the palace. The low plaster groined entrance to the house has been altogether removed. After the legal act of consecration had been performed, morning prayer was said by the Rev. E.

H. Fisher, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and the Rev. W. F. Ekekin Knollys, M.A., Whitehall Preacher, two of the Bishop's Chaplains. The musical portion of the service was under the direction of the Rev. T. Helmore, M.A., of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's, assisted by some of the choristers from the last-named chapel (the Bishop of London being Dean of her Majesty's Chapel Royal). The Rev. Albert H. Stowell, M.A., Incumbent of St. Peter's, Stepney, presided at the organ. Amongst others present were the Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishops of Winchester,

Lichfield, Oxford, Gloucester and Bristol, Chester, and Nelson; the Deans of St. Paul's and Westminster; the Archbishop of London (the Archbishop of Middlesex was prevented from attending by indisposition); about twenty-four of the twenty-nine Rural Deans of the diocese, &c. The high dignitaries of the Church wore their robes, and the Rural Deans and Bishop's Chaplains their surplices. The other clergy present were simply dressed as ordinary members of the congregation. The Bishop of London and Mrs. Tait entertained a large circle at luncheon after-

wards, in the large dining-room and in the "Porteus Library" of the palace. At four o'clock there was an afternoon service in the chapel, with a sermon by the Bishop of Oxford. The Archbishop of Canterbury arrived from Marlborough House in time for luncheon, and was present in chapel (as Archbishop of the province) at the four p.m. service. Before the celebration of the holy communion in the morning and after the afternoon service there was an offertory collection in aid of "the Bishop of London's Fund."



THE NEW CHAPEL AT FULHAM PALACE.—(W. BUTTERFIELD, ARCHITECT.)



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 304.

## HISTORIC EPOCH.

FRIDAY week was the greatest night of the Session of 1867. All that the House has hitherto done this Session is as nothing to what it then achieved; and nothing that remains for it to do before the vacation can exceed in interest what it then did. Indeed, when we think of the transaction of that night we are lost in astonishment, and especially when we remember who it was that led us on to this great event. Early in the evening the House went into Committee on the Reform Bill. The question to be considered was "that clause 3 stand part of the bill." Clause 3 is, as our readers must by this time know, the borough franchise clause—the great fighting clause—by far the most important of all the clauses which constitute the enfranchising part of the measure. This clause as it stood originally, when the bill was first laid upon the table, proposed that every man of full age, &c., who is on the last day of July in any year, and has during the whole of the preceding two years been an inhabitant occupier within the borough, and has during the time of such occupation been rated in respect of such premises, &c., to all rates made for the relief of the poor, &c., shall have a vote for such borough. This is the substance of this famous clause. The principle of the borough franchise as set forth in this clause is, as our readers will see, an extension of the franchise in boroughs to all inhabitant householders paying rates—in fact, the old scot and lot franchise, not household suffrage pure and simple, as some suppose; for household suffrage pure and simple means that every man dwelling in a house, whether it be rated or not, shall have a vote. Before the Reform Bill of 1832 was passed there were many boroughs which had the privilege of pure and simple household suffrage; whilst in others only those who paid scot and lot—that is, rates and taxes—could vote. Bedford was a household-suffrage borough; Hertford, if we mistake not, scot and lot; whilst Northampton was a potwalloping borough, that is, every man who boiled (walloped) his own pot—in short, a lodger—was enfranchised. The borough franchise proposed by this bill is the old scot and lot franchise. But to understand what the House really did on this eventful night our readers must remember that the Government, fearing that a pure scot and lot franchise would prove too extensive, proposed certain checks and counterpoises in the shape of limitations, notably these—the person claiming to vote must have lived in his house two years before the last day in July; and, secondly, by the 34th clause, must have paid his rate personally, and not through his landlord, or be what is called a compound householder. There was also in the bill a further check or counterpoise—namely, dual voting—that is, men in certain cases were to have two votes. This, then, was what the bill first proposed—scot-and-lot franchise, with two years' residence, materially limited by the provision that no man should be a voter who does not pay his rates personally, and further checked and counterpoised by giving two votes to property in certain cases. Well, now, what has happened since the bill appeared? Dual voting was soon got rid of. The first whiff of opposition blew that away; next, the two years' residence was by a large majority reduced to one year; and the only check remaining was the personal payment of rates. Well, on Friday night week the House with the consent of the Government, knocked away this last check, or, as one put it, released the wheels of the Parliamentary constitution from the last drag and let it roll down to household suffrage pure and simple, as he said, but which, as we have shown, is not household suffrage, but the old healthy scot-and-lot franchise. An event vast and important this, reader, when we come to reflect upon it; and now let us show you how it was brought about.

## HOW IT WAS MADE.

On Friday night, then, we met to discuss this business, which came before us in manner following:—The question was, as we have said, that clause 3 stand part of the bill. To this clause Mr. Hodgkinson, the member for Newark, proposed an amendment, the substance of which is that in Parliamentary boroughs no person shall be rated to parochial rates but the occupiers of the tenements—that is, that in said Parliamentary boroughs compounding for rates shall be abolished; that every resident occupier shall be rated, and pay his own rates; and, consequently—mark this!—have a vote, provided he shall have resided in his house one year. In short, that we should descend to the old scot-and-lot suffrage. This, then, was the question to be debated and settled that night. To many it may seem a very simple question; but really a more important question was never debated in the House; for, think what it means! Simple as it looks, it means this—whether the number of men which Mr. Disraeli by this bill proposed to enfranchise shall be doubled. The House, when Mr. Hodgkinson rose, was full, but not crowded. Why should members be in a hurry to come down? They knew what was coming on; and they knew, or thought they knew, that there would be a long debate and a late division; and that, in all probability, none of the crack debaters would speak before dinner. If Mr. Gladstone, or Bright, or Mill proposed to introduce this amendment, the House would doubtless have been crammed; but Mr. Hodgkinson is not an attractive speaker. By profession he is a solicitor, practising at Newark, and can say what he has to say in a solid, practical, intelligible, lawyer-like manner; he is, however, rather dry and dull, as most lawyers are. If, now, the members could have foreseen what was about to happen, what crowds would have come down! But this our inscrutable Chancellor of the Exchequer—*suo more*—according to his usual politic custom, had kept to himself. None of his party outside the Cabinet, and some say not all the members of the Cabinet, knew what he was going to do. And this being so, comparatively few members were present when Mr. Hodgkinson rose, and most of those who were, after listening for a while, slipped away—some to write their letters, more to gossip in the lobby, and when the dinner-hour approached, nearly all to dine—a few in the dining-room on the premises, but the majority at their clubs, or at their own or their friends' houses; and so it happened, when Mr. Hodgkinson had delivered himself, in his dry business-like way, of his speech, there were not more than from fifty to sixty members in the House. It is curious, looking back upon his speech in the light of subsequent events, to note how cautious the hon. gentleman was to disclaim all enmity to the Government. Enmity, dear Sir! Why, you are its best friend, if you did but know it. The Government is at sea and in danger, and your amendment is as a life boat to save it from wreck. But all this was hidden from Mr. Hodgkinson's eyes, and the eyes of us all. We saw nothing but a stern battle before us, with a possible, but scarcely probable, defeat of the Government. Little did we imagine, then, that the Government was waiting anxiously to capitulate, and to receive with open arms those who thought they were its opponents as its best friends. How curious all this, now we look back upon it!

## FIGHTING NOTHING.

But Mr. Gladstone's speech, which followed that of the mover of the amendment, looks now still more odd. The right hon. gentleman spoke in his usual eloquent, fervid, exhaustive style. For nearly an hour he pounded away at what he deemed an entrenched foe; and all the while, as we know now, he was fighting shadows—cannonading in the dark a citadel when its garrison had capitulated and opened the gates. We remember now that Disraeli, as he sat opposite his old antagonist, listening to his fire, looked unusually serene and even pleased. He, as our readers know, generally when Gladstone is speaking, looks grim, impassive, impenetrable; but on this occasion every now and then he lifted his eyes and a slight smile flickered on his face. We see now what this meant; it was he was enjoying the humour of the thing—smiling at what John Stuart Mill would call "the irony of the situation." Our readers may express their surprise that Disraeli did not prevent all this loss of time—this waste of oratorical and logical powder and shot—by rising in the House to announce his intention before Mr. Hodgkinson began to speak. Well, Disraeli, as we know, has a keen sense of humour, and perhaps he was led by this to allow Mr. Hodgkinson and Mr. Gladstone, especially the

latter, thus to fire away at nothing. We rather think, though, that it was policy that kept him in his seat. He wanted to do the thing quietly—to make no noise about it—as if really he was doing nothing but what might have been expected of him—in short, simply accepting the best mode of carrying out the great principles of his bill. Had he made the announcement when the House was full, great excitement would have been produced; his own followers might have got alarmed, and an angry debate might have arisen. "No," he probably may have said to himself; "I will wait till the House is thin and languid, as it always is during the dinner-hour, and then in the quietest manner slip out my intention to accept this amendment, not as a matter calculated to astonish, but rather as a movement that is the natural logical consequence of what has already occurred." This, we fancy, was Disraeli's policy, and his speech, we think, justifies this opinion.

## THE TRAITORS JUSTIFIED.

Mr. Bass, after Gladstone, supported the amendment in a short but unusually lively and vigorous speech; and here we may say that Mr. Bass, and the other "traitors" who deserted Gladstone on the memorable 13th ult., have been quite jubilant since Disraeli accepted this amendment. And, in truth, they may well be so; for does it not justify their treason? They gave as a reason for their desertion that if Gladstone had carried his amendment the Government would have resigned or dissolved, and the Reform Bill would have been lost for this session; whereas, if the Government were in and the bill alive, it might be made all that could be wished. For, you see, this Government is not obstinate, but conciliatory; or, as military men say, "soft to the touch." Well, Bass and his colleagues now say, boasting, "You see, we were right, the logic of events has justified our policy. We have kept the Government in and the bill alive, and now see what we have got—all that we want."

## FIAT.

Mr. Disraeli, the House being very thin, rose immediately after Mr. Bass. "What *can* this mean?" said we, as we saw him rise. You see, readers, in a great debate on an important question involving the fate of the Government, it is not usual for the leader to speak until the close of the discussion. And, when we saw Disraeli rise thus early, we at once suspected that, as we say here, "something was up." And this was evidently the feeling of the members generally; for how silent they were! how intently they listened to every word! all eye, all ear, all expectation! The Chancellor of the Exchequer did not leave the House long in doubt. Indeed, the first sentence he uttered was indicative of what was coming, and into every mind in a moment flashed the thought "he accepts." But, silence; let us listen further; and, breathlessly, every man did listen till, at length, there came these memorable words:—"With respect to the amendment of the hon. gentleman, the Government have no opposition to offer to it;" and then there broke forth from the Liberal ranks a loud cheer. Some of the papers say that there were cheers from both sides of the House. This is not true. The Liberals all cheered; but on the Government side there was only here and there a cheer—no general cheering. On the contrary, over the faces of most of the Government supporters there came a puzzled, perplexed look, with something of astonishment and even dismay in it.

## CONSTERNATION.

It was between eight and nine of the clock when this startling revelation was made. Most of the members were, as we have said, away; but to those at the clubs the electric wire soon sent the news, and at a hundred tables there were surprise, and excitement, and consternation, the like of which has seldom been seen. Many a snug dinner-party was prematurely broken up that night. Usually the diners do not return till about ten o'clock; but before nine the tide had turned, and by half-past the House was again full. As the members rushed across the lobby astonishment sat upon most of their faces. Is it true? Is it true? was everywhere asked. Yes, it was true—too true for many. "True, disgracefully true!" exclaimed one member, a noble Lord of the old Tory race—race once so numerous but now so dwindled down that the noble Lord may be called a *rara avis*. "Think how we've been sold!" exclaimed another (he was one of the Cave); "we would not have Gladstone's bill, and, by Jove, we have got one ten thousand times worse!"

## WRECKS HIGH AND DRY.

Below the gangway on the Government side of the House sat a cluster of Tory malcontents. Lord Cranbourne, late Secretary of State for India, who threw up his post, with all its honours and emoluments, rather than sacrifice his convictions—deserted his chief rather than desert his principles; Sir William Heathcote, who, though he is one of the most amiable of men, firmly refused to support this bill even before it was amended, and must look at it now with something akin to horror; Sir Charles Rainald Knightley, the old-fashioned, honest Tory—a fine old English gentleman from Northamptonshire; Robert Earle, of Maldon, once Disraeli's private secretary, but now recalcitrant even to fierceness; Sandford, late Peacock, Mr. Earle's colleague. Maldon is to be deprived of one member, and it is but natural that its representatives should oppose the bill. Sturdy Buresford Hope, the member for the Potteries, as Mr. Disraeli called him (he represents Stoke-on-Trent). Lately Mr. Hope satirically called Disraeli's policy "an Asian mystery;" whereupon the Chancellor of the Exchequer flung back a stinging allusion to the hon. member's peculiar "Bavarian grace." Mr. Hope is excessively clumsy in build, has a very ungainly mode of addressing the House, and is of Dutch extraction. Mr. Hope has from the first opposed the bill, and be sure that this retort will not mitigate his opposition. And, lastly, there was good, honest General Peel, lately Chief Secretary of State for War, but now voluntarily "out in the cold." All these gentlemen were evidently (to use a word now thought to be low, but which was used by Spenser and Swift) dumbfounded. As they sat there laying their heads together, and seemingly considering what was to be done, they looked dismally forlorn, like wrecked ships thrown by a storm high and dry upon the shore, the sea having receded, leaving them hopelessly there. Evidently they would have done something, if they had but known what to do and how to do it; but there was clearly nothing to be done. The word had been spoken, and could not be recalled; the pledge had been given, and could not be revoked. Whilst they had been dining a great thing had been done, which, as long as England lasts, can never be undone. Well, gentlemen, were you not warned that the sibyls would return with increased demands?

## MILL AND THE LADIES.—LOWE AND HIS CROAKINGS.

And now our space is filled, and we can say but little more. We should have liked to have said something about Mr. Mill's noble speech on womanhood suffrage made on Monday night, described how he spoke, how devoutly the House listened, and how the ladies in the gallery flattened their faces against the wires of their cage to get a sight of, and catch every word that fell from, their great advocate. We also would, if we could, speak of Mr. Lowe and his lugubrious vaticinations. Ah! what a scroll was that which he unrolled! It was like the prophet's, written within and without with mourning, lamentation, and woe. Jeremiah himself was never more mournful than Mr. Lowe. But for this reflection we should have been deeply affected: we have heard all this before: we heard prophecies even more dreadful in 1831-2. Then, indeed, there were scores of prophets, weeping and wailing "that the time was at hand;" "that England was about to be destroyed," &c. And when we remembered how singularly all these prophecies failed—how we got prosperity instead of adversity—how England has grown ever since richer, better, safer, by widening the suffrage—we took heart, dined heartily, and smoked our pipe serenely, all the forebodings and croakings of this gloomy prophet, or, as we ought to call him, pseudo-prophet, notwithstanding.

THE ISTHMIAN OF SUEZ COMPANY has obtained from the Viceroy of Egypt the payment in advance of 30,000,000*fr.*—that is to say, the half of the sum for which the Egyptian Government was still liable. This operation enables the company to pay the shareholders the July coupon, and to push forward the works with greater activity.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MAY 17.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord LIFFORD presented a petition asking their Lordships to address the Queen that the lives of the Fenian convicts might be spared. The petitioners were inhabitants of Glasnevin. Lord Lifford expressed his strong approval of the prayer of the petition, and declared that, if the sentences on the Fenian convicts were carried out, it would aggravate the sores of Ireland.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE REFORM BILL.

The House went into Committee again on the Reform Bill. Amendments proposed by Mr. Watkin and Mr. Pease, which aimed at defining what a house should be, were discussed at some length. Finally they were withdrawn, it being understood that the Attorney-General should bring in an interpretation clause dealing with the question. The next amendment was one by Sir Francis Goldsmid, declaring that no house should qualify more than one voter at a time. There was a brief discussion on this amendment, which eventually was carried by 259 votes to 25.

Mr. HODGKINSON then moved a proviso to the effect that, with certain exceptions to be hereafter settled, the occupier only should be rated to parochial rates in respect of premises occupied by him within the limits of a Parliamentary borough, all existing Acts to the contrary notwithstanding. Stripped of its technical phraseology, the amendment went to repeal the Small Tenements Acts; in other words, to abolish compounding for rates altogether.

Mr. GLADSTONE said, as the bill now stood the only course open to those who protested against the inequalities with which it was proposed to accompany the possession of the franchise was to continue to offer to those inequalities not a factious or vexatious, but a determined resistance. Looking forward, then, to the possibility of a mischievous agitation occurring in the country on this subject, he asked himself whether the amendment would so mitigate the evils and increase the advantages of the bill as to justify the House in acceding to it. The amendment recognised the fundamental principle of the bill—namely, personal rating, so that the Government could not object to it on that ground. Desirous of finding out a way to a peaceful solution, he looked at the proposal in that spirit, and, accepting it as the lesser of two evils, he believed that the abolition of the rate-compounding system would be an advantage that would eclipse the mischief that constituted the price at which they were now asked to purchase the boon of the franchise. He was ready, therefore, to accept the plan of Mr. Hodgkinson as the best of which the circumstances of the case would admit, and as worthy, all things considered, of acceptance by the Committee, the Government, and the country.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER regarded the motion as an admission that the principle on which the proposed borough franchise was founded was a sound and true one. So far, then, as the spirit of the proviso was concerned, Ministers could not offer any opposition to it whatever. In short, it was in accordance with the policy of their bill; and that was a policy which, if they had been masters of the situation, they would have recommended for adoption long ago. Carrying out as it did their original view, and confirming, establishing, and rendering triumphant the principle of the bill, he required not the solemn tones of admonition in which Mr. Gladstone had spoken to induce him to express his cordial adhesion to the motion. He must ask the mover, however, not to hurry the House to a hasty decision; for his own opinion was that separate legislation on the subject would be the best course, otherwise delay would be interposed to the progress of the Reform Bill. If it were the opinion of the House that there should be separate legislation, he was perfectly prepared on the part of the Government to undertake the task; and what he would recommend was that without loss of time they should proceed with the Reform Bill, and that the measure for carrying out the amendment should be drawn so as to fit in with that bill.

MONDAY, MAY 20.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Increase of the Episcopate Bill was considered in Committee. The Earl of DERBY opposed the clause which authorised the appointment of suffragan bishops, objecting to such appointments in any case. Some discussion ensued; and eventually the House returned without coming to a decision on the subject, it being understood that the matter should be reopened on Monday next.

The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill and the Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill passed through Committee.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

Lord R. MONTAGU, replying to an inquiry from Mr. Dent, said it was quite true that fresh cases of cattle plague had occurred in the metropolis; and it had been reported to him that out of ninety-five cows in one shed in a dairy at Islington twelve had been attacked that morning. The question of the propriety of continuing to allow cattle to be imported into London was then under the consideration of the Privy Council.

## THE REFORM BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Reform Bill, and resumed the consideration of the third clause on the proviso moved by Mr. Hodgkinson abolishing the compound-householder system in Parliamentary boroughs.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that since the last sitting of the House the Government had given the amendment their consideration, and it was their opinion that the policy recommended in it could be effected by clauses to be inserted in the present bill. Some preliminary inquiries were, however, necessary; but on Thursday he would probably be able to lay upon the table the clauses by which he proposed to accomplish the object, and which he trusted would be satisfactory to the House. Under these circumstances it would be inexpedient to proceed with clause 34, relating to the compound householders.

Mr. HODGKINSON, after this statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said he would not persist with his amendment, which was thereupon withdrawn.

Amendments of which Mr. Childers and Mr. Hubbard had given notice followed suit, and were also abandoned.

On the question being put that clause 3, as amended, stand part of the bill,

Mr. LOWE rose, and recommended that the clause should be reprinted, in order that it might be considered more fully by the House, on the ground that in its then shape the clause comprised within it all the elements of a complete revolution. Last year he ventured to prophesy that, once embarked on this democratic downward course, they would either ruin their party or ruin their country. He found that he was wrong, as prophets are often were. It was no longer a question of alternatives; they were going to ruin both.

Mr. HENLEY explained what had brought him to the conclusion, not only that the present proposal of the Government was a sound one, but also the most conservative that could be made.

After some further discussion the clause as amended was agreed to and ordered to stand part of the bill and loud cheers and without any audible expression of dissent. On clause 4, relating to the county franchise,

Mr. MILL moved to substitute the word "person" for "man," with the view of conferring the privilege of voting upon what he described as a large portion of the population who were now excluded from the pale of the Constitution—namely, the gentler sex, unmarried women and widows, provided they were otherwise qualified, and whose exclusion, he contended, was a violation of the cherished doctrine that taxation and representation ought to be co-extensive.

After some debate a division took place, and the motion was rejected by 196 against 73 votes.

Mr. COLVILLE proposed an amendment stating that men who shall be seized at law or in equity of any lands or tenements of copyhold or any other tenure whatever, except freehold, for his own life, for the life of another, or for any lives whatsoever, or for any larger estate of the clear yearly value of not less than £5 over and above all rents and charges payable out of or in respect of the same, shall be entitled to vote in the election of a knight or knights of the shire, or to serve in any future Parliament for the county, or for the riding, parts, or division of the county in which such lands or tenements shall be respectively situate.

After some discussion, the amendment was carried by a majority of 44, the numbers being—For the amendment, 201; against it, 157.

TUESDAY, MAY 21.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Earl of DERBY, replying to a question put by Earl Russell, said that, in respect to the Alabama claims, the Government of the United States had accepted the proposal to refer the matter to arbitration. Differences had arisen as to the form in which the matter was to be brought before the arbitrator. The British Government wished to have a statement of the points in dispute; while the Government of the United States wished to have all the correspondence laid before the arbitrator. There were some points which the British Government could not consent to submit to arbitration; but the negotiations on the matter were proceeding in a thoroughly friendly spirit.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## GOVERNMENT OF THE METROPOLIS.

Mr. MILL moved for leave to bring in a bill in reference to the local government of the metropolis. The nature of his proposal has been fully described in these columns. He stated that he should not ask the House to read the bill a second time until he had an opportunity of bringing in a bill for the creation of a central governing body in the metropolis.

Mr. AYNTON took objection to Mr. Mill's proposal; and, Mr. Locke, Colonel Hogg, and Colonel Sykes having spoken,

Mr. G. HARDY announced that the Government would not oppose the introduction of the bill, but would wait to see its contents before offering an opinion upon it.

The bill was brought in and read the first time.



## THE HABEAS CORPUS IN IRELAND.

Lord NAAS, in asking for leave to bring in a bill to further suspend the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland until the 1st of March next, reviewed the events of the last few months in Ireland, and declared that nothing but a profound conviction of the necessity of the step would have induced the Government to make the present proposal to the House.

After a few words from Mr. Maguire, leave was given to bring in the bill.

THURSDAY, MAY 23.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

## CRIMINAL LAW BILL.

Lord CRANWORTH moved the second reading of this bill, and explained its provisions. The first clause related to the amendment of the law respecting such offences as the extortion of money by threats, which had remained in an unsatisfactory condition for the last twenty years. The next three clauses related to the examination of witnesses. Under the present law a prosecutor could have the expenses of his witnesses allowed, but the defendant, through failure of being unable to pay his witnesses, was not able to summon them for his defence, and consequently often lost his case when innocent. He proposed to give power to the magistrate taking the depositions of the prosecutor also at the time to bind over witnesses for the defence to attend at the trial and give evidence at the wish of the defendant. He thought that this was just and reasonable.

The bill was read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## PAYMENT OF RATES.

Mr. GREGORY gave notice that he would move, as an addition to Mr. Poullett Scrope's amendment, that the landlord shall pay half rates upon all tenements under four pounds.

## THE REFORM BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he would lay on the table to-night clauses carrying out the policy of the amendment of the hon. member for Newark (Mr. Hodgkinson) with respect to the Small Tenements and Rating Acts. Such clauses would be in the hands of members to-morrow morning. He also thought, after they passed the 4th clause, they should recur to what he had previously proposed, and proceed to the 34th clause. With regard to the state of business, he would suggest that next week they should commence morning sittings on Tuesday and Friday, and he wished the House to consider whether it was not in their power to make these sittings more efficient than before. He thought it could be done by a redistribution of the hours—viz., by commencing at two o'clock and sitting till seven, and then having an interval from seven to nine, which was the period when members were least anxious. At any rate they could make the experiment.

## HABEAS CORPUS SUSPENSION (IRELAND) ACT CONTINUANCE (NO. 2) BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill, Mr. MAGUIRE reviewed the present position of Ireland, and asserted that the postponement of the Irish Land Bills would have the effect of exasperating the people of Ireland. Referring to Fenianism, he commented on the evidence given by informers at the trials of Burke and Doran, and urged that it would be most impolitic to carry out the extreme sentence of the law on the Fenian prisoners. He implored the House not to send, by unjust legislation, thousands of Irishmen from their country, charged with deadly and undying hate. He only asked the House to grant what former Administrations had promised—what several statesmen had declared necessary—and he would conclude by saying that if they acted in the spirit of the policy of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer they would turn over a new leaf in the history of Ireland.

Mr. ROEBUCK said that since 1829 this House had been endeavouring to alleviate the physical, moral, and constitutional condition of Ireland. A more foul calumny had never been uttered than to say that Ireland had been ill-used. As to the Irish Church, in what respect did the position of Roman Catholics differ from that of the Dissenters in England? Emigration, again, was both for the good of those who went away, and of those who remained.

Mr. BRIGHT said Irish members would show themselves unworthy of seats in that House if they did not raise their voices in reprobation of this system of coercive laws that were being enacted Session after Session against their country without being accompanied by any measures calculated to benefit the people or to allay that discontent and disaffection that so generally prevailed in that unfortunate country.

Lord NAAS entered into a history of the Fenian conspiracy and the arrests of the leaders, and vindicated the policy of the Government in regard to the insurrectionary movements in the country—a policy which was influenced by the principle that "prevention was better than cure."

Mr. B. OSBORNE admitted that in the present condition of Ireland it was absolutely necessary to renew the Act for the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, even in charity to the misguided people themselves. He, however, regretted that Government had not seen the propriety of enacting measures for the improvement of Ireland and for the removal of the many evils under which that country continued to groan; and he warned the Ministers that the first cannon fired in hostility to this country would compel them to deal in a large and generous spirit with the sister Isle.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE, whilst admitting that repressive measures were necessary at the present moment, thought it was the duty of the Government, at whatever sacrifice of time, labour, or individual interest, to take the earliest opportunity of introducing a series of measures which were absolutely called for by the improvement of the condition of that country. The debate was continued for a considerable time longer.

The bill was ultimately read the second time.

## REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE BILL.

The House having again gone into Committee upon this bill, Mr. HUSSEY VIVIAN moved an amendment on clause 4 to the effect that any person having a lease of property extending over sixty years, where there was a clear annual value to the householder of £5 and upwards, should be entitled to the franchise.

After a brief discussion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER agreed to admit the leaseholder to the franchise who possessed a £5 clear profit over and above the ground rent, on the same terms as the £10 leaseholder under the old Act.

The amendment was then agreed to. Sir E. COLEBROOKE moved to leave out of the clause "premises of any tenure within the county," and insert a "dwelling-house within the county which separately or jointly with any land is," his object being to require some special place of occupation as conferring the franchise, and to prevent the creation of fagot votes.

After a brief discussion the Committee divided, when the original words of the clause were rejected by a majority of 196 to 193 against the Government. On the question that the words of the amendment be inserted in the clause the Committee again divided, and the result was a majority of 212 to 209 in favour of the Government.

Lord CRANBROOKE said, as clause 4 was in a somewhat hopeless condition, he moved that the Chairman report progress.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER objected to reporting progress at so early an hour as eleven o'clock. If every word of the clauses of the bill were to be cavilled with, it would take years to pass a measure of this kind.

After a scene of considerable confusion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he felt it a hopeless task to persevere with the discussion against the opposition then offered. He should therefore assent to the Chairman reporting progress and ask leave to sit again.

This course having been taken, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until Monday.

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SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1867.

## THE COTTAGE HOMES OF ENGLAND.

HOME is a peculiarly English institution. The Frenchman spends most of his leisure time on the Boulevards, in cafés, and in other places of resort; the German much affects public "gartens," concert-rooms, theatres, and so forth; the Italian's happy climate makes home a matter of little consequence to him; the American has, in numerous instances,

no home save the monster hotels with which the States abound; but the Englishman's natural and favourite *habitat* is the domestic fireside. And yet the homes of the mass of the lower orders in England are anything but attractive places.

Most of our large towns are mere wildernesses of bricks and mortar, where no green thing exists to refresh the eye, and into which what air penetrates is laden with pestiferous miasma and impurities of all descriptions. The poor who dwell in English cities have little inducement to make home their chief resort; and yet they do it. Were the fetid, confined, dirty, ill-ventilated, and overcrowded rooms in which the town populations of Great Britain reside changed for comfortable, attractive, and healthy dwellings, what an improvement might we not look for in the habits, manners, and proclivities of the poorer classes of our fellow-countrymen! Such a change would be more efficient in promoting morality, sobriety, and thrift than all the preaching, and lecturing, and tract-distributing that can possibly be brought into operation. Were the homes of the people sweet in a physical sense, sweet sentiments and feelings would flourish there too. They cannot well do so at present. There is, however, a prospect of improvement in this respect, so far as London and some other large towns and cities are concerned. The labours and beneficence of the Peabodies, Waterlows, Stanleys, and Macullagh Torrenses of the age are telling now, and will tell more hereafter, on this matter; and we may hope that, huge as the work to be performed is, a marked improvement will ere long be effected in the homes of our urban population.

But, urgent as the matter is in towns, it is equally, or even more so, in the country, where the difficulties to be overcome are not by any means so onerous. In towns, the scarcity and consequent high value of land is the great obstacle to the improvement of the dwellings of the people. This, however, is not the case as respects the rural districts, where both land and building materials can generally be readily obtained. It is not lack of means, but want of will, that impedes improvement in the country. Large properties and large holdings, whatever advantages they may possess in other respects, are hurtful in no ordinary degree in this. A landlord owns half or a quarter of a county; a farmer leases half or the whole of a parish; and both strive to keep people off their land as much as possible, lest they should become chargeable to the poor-rates. Cottage-building is therefore discouraged, labourers' dwellings are few and ill-appointed; and the consequences are that they are overcrowded and unwholesome. To landowners and farmers belongs the task of remedying this state of things. They benefit by the labour of the peasant, and they should look to it that he and his family are at least decently lodged. This is precisely one of the duties—if not the main duty—that devolves upon property; but it is also precisely the duty which the owners of property most pertinaciously refuse, or neglect, to perform. Were men as ready, or half as ready, to discharge their duties as they are to assert their rights, the cottage homes of England would not long remain a reproach and an opprobrium to the country. On this subject Mr. Samuel Clarke, sanitary inspector of Norwich, may be cited as a competent witness; and on the dwellings of the rural population he makes these pertinent remarks:—

I have read the arguments against the agricultural gang system, and most of them, in my opinion, are very sound. But what is the cause of the prevalence of such a system? There are but few cottages on a large estate, and, consequently, the number of labourers on the spot is not sufficient for the number of acres; hence the introduction of the objectionable gangs. But let us not lose sight of the night as well as the day gangs. I do not mean poaching gangs, but gangs that do more mischief than the night poacher, for he enjoys the fresh air of heaven in his unlawful pursuit, while the occupants of the overcrowded, mud-built, dilapidated, ill-thatched "home," seeking rest from their daily labour, have to encounter the poisoned heat of an overcrowded room, where there is indiscriminate intermixing and every arrangement to crush self-respect, to make a night's repose unholly and hideous, where no shame is known, and every decency blunted. It may be said that these are isolated cases; but they are not so, and I could produce proofs that would not be admissible into the columns of newspapers. The Sanitary Act is permissive and partial in its administration, while it neither gives power nor offers protection to its officers in carrying out its provisions; and hence the most abominable and death-dealing nuisances are permitted to exist. The owners defy, and the authorities are supine, either from the want of courage to administer the law or the desire not to offend a friend. While in one part of the county the Act is adopted, the adjoining union treats it with contempt; and the result is, and has been too painfully proved, that nuisances are left untouched, and disease and death prevail. The expenses saved by not administering the Act are then paid in surgeon's bills, extra relief, and the cost of coffins for paupers.

## PROSPECTS OF THE REFORM BILL.

THE clouds on the political horizon begin to break, and light is being shed on the prospects of the Reform question. The great stumbling-block in the way of the Government measure, and its great blot too—unfair treatment of the compound householder—has been removed, and there is, consequently, a probability, almost a certainty, that a satisfactory franchise bill will be passed this Session. The proviso proposed by Mr. Hodgkinson, and accepted by Mr. Disraeli, is substantially one of the alternatives suggested by us last week. Compounding for rates is to be abolished; and as compounders will thus become ratepayers, they are placed on an equal footing with their neighbours, and will obtain votes by the same process. Thus the chief bone of contention is removed. The franchise in boroughs will be extended to all householders not too poor to pay rates; the law will, in fact, be practically household suffrage, with that residuum of pauperism excluded which few wish to see admitted to the privilege of voting. There are still objectionable points of detail to be considered; but, so much has now been gained that no insuperable difficulty is likely to arise, so far, at least, as the borough franchise is concerned. We rejoice at this, and are content to award credit to the Government and the party which supports them, while we care not to inquire too curiously into the motives that may have influenced them in passing a bill the leading provisions of which are so utterly at variance with the principles they

have heretofore professed. It is enough for us that the Reform question is about to be settled, as regards its main features, on a basis that is likely to be satisfactory, and therefore permanent. It matters little to the country by whose hands the task is accomplished. The Conservatives are wise at last; may they prove to have been wise in time. A more thorough redistribution of seats than that proposed by Mr. Disraeli will be necessary, of course. But as the right hon. gentleman has conceded so much, he will probably concede this too, by and by. Most likely that part of the work will be left to be performed next Session; but, whether it be accomplished this year or next, we trust that when the work is finally done, it will be found to have been well done; and that Parliament and the country, freed from the turmoil of political agitation, will be able to give attention to those social, sanitary, legal, and military reforms which are so much needed.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE KING OF THE GREEKS has been formally betrothed to Princess Olga, daughter of the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia. The Princess was born on Sept. 3, 1851, and is therefore in her sixteenth year. The King is only twenty-one, having been born on Jan. 5, 1846.

THE SULTAN, accompanied by the two eldest Princes and his Minister for Foreign Affairs, is about to visit Paris. The Queen of Spain, accompanied by the King and the Prince of Asturias, is expected in Paris about the 20th of June.

THE INFANT SON OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHRISTIAN was christened in the Chapel Royal at Windsor Castle on Tuesday. The child received the names of Christian Victor Albert Ludwig Ernest Anton.

THE VICEROY OF EGYPT has received from the Porte the title of Hivider, or King. Other concessions are made, and altogether it is pretty clear that the connection between Turkey and Egypt is growing much weaker.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON is suffering from a severe bronchial affection, and serious anxiety is felt as to the course the malady may take.

MR. GATHORNE HARDY, the new Home Secretary, was re-elected, on Monday, by the University of Oxford, without opposition; and the right hon. gentleman took his seat in the House the same night.

THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL is more than half completed.

MISS KATE TERRY will shortly retire from the stage. She is about to be married.

CHRIST CHURCH, KENSINGTON, an iron edifice, was destroyed by fire on Monday.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL REFORM UNION are said to contemplate holding a "demonstration" in Mr. Spurgeon's tabernacle.

THE TREATY agreed to at the London Conference for the settlement of the Luxemburg question has been signed by the Emperor of France and the King of Prussia.

A GRAND FETE AND GALA, in connection with the Ancient Order of Druids, is to be held at Stonehenge in July next.

HAY HARVEST has commenced in the neighbourhood of Salisbury, in Wiltshire.

OVER 300 women have graduated in the medical colleges of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

AT WARMISTON, in Wiltshire, the drapers have resolved to close their shops at five p.m. on Wednesdays during the summer.

A TESTIMONIAL to the Right Hon. Henry Brand, M.P., in recognition of his services as "whipper-in" to the Liberal party, will be presented on the 19th of the ensuing month at a banquet, at Willis's Rooms, when the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., will preside.

AT WOOLSTONE, in Hants, there is a white may-tree, the leaves of which, instead of being green, are a pale yellow colour, bordering on white.

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE REV. MR. MACKONOCHE, the Incumbent of St. Alban's, Holborn, for the ritualistic practices which he has introduced at that church, were instituted in the Court of Arches on Tuesday. After some preliminary arguments the Dean of Arches postponed the case, that the articles of information might be amended.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER has given £2000 towards the support of the Women's Almshouses at Shaftesbury, £500 to the Salisbury Infirmary, and £100 to the Bath Hospital.

THE CHESHIRE SALT-MINE PROPRIETORS have acquiesced in a request to grant their workmen an increased rate of wages, to the extent of 2s. a week.

MRS. LOCKE, widow of the late Mr. Joseph Locke, M.P., has bequeathed to the Institute of Civil Engineers the historical full-length portrait of that distinguished engineer, by Sir Francis Grant, and a sum of £2000, free of legacy duty.

REPORTS have reached Calcutta that the captain and a boat's crew of the ship *Assam Valley*, having landed on North Andaman Island, were attacked and overpowered by the natives, who are cannibals. It is feared that all were massacred. Government has dispatched steamers to rescue the survivors, if any should remain.

THE BERLIN GOVERNMENT has lodged a detainer upon funds in the hands of a Hanoverian banker to the amount of 60,000 thalers, and forming a portion of the private fortune of King George, in consequence of an attempt to secretly dispose of that sum contrary to the existing convention between his Majesty and the Prussian Government. Domestically perquisitions and arrests have been made in several parts of Hanover, even among persons of the highest position.

A CONFERENCE was held on Monday by thirty-eight of the fifty-three Scotch members, when it was resolved, it is said, to oppose that portion of the Reform Bill for Scotland which relates to the regrouping of burghs and division of counties.

A SUPPLEMENT to the *Gazette* was published on Wednesday night, containing a Royal proclamation of no ordinary importance. It declares that, after July 1, the British North American colonies shall be one dominion, with the name of Canada. Further, it names the Senates for the different provinces.

ANOTHER ORPHAN HOME is about to be founded in South London. Beginning work modestly and quietly, Miss Charlotte Sharman, of 22, West-square, Southwark, has taken a house, which is now being fitted up for the reception of orphan children. Its occupation will be inaugurated in a few weeks.

MR. HUGH SEYMOUR TREMENEERE and Mr. Edward Carleton Tufnell have been appointed her Majesty's Commissioners to inquire into and report on the employment of children, young persons, and women in agriculture, for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent and with what modifications the principles of the Factory Acts can be adopted for the regulation of such employment, and especially with a view to the better education of such children.

MR. JOHN OXENFORD, the dramatic critic of the *Times*, and the author and adapter of several plays, is now dangerously ill. Strange to say, while he has been lying on his sick-bed he has come into possession of two fortunes—one of £30,000 from his father, and another of £11,000 which accrues by the death of a very distant relative. May they revive him! He wields a gentle pen in gentleman's language—neither kills nor raises to buoyant hopes.

Drs. COLENSO has issued a pastoral addressed to the clergy and laity, announcing that, now it had been ascertained that there was to be no appeal from Lord Romilly's judgment, the time had come for him to vindicate his authority for maintaining order in his diocese. He bids the clergy, if they thought him in error, to teach what they themselves believed, but required due canonical obedience.

A ROMAN VILLA has just been dug out at Andover, in Hants, by the Rev E. Kell and other Hampshire archaeologists. It is 65 ft. long and 45 ft. broad. The roof had been supported by massive pillars. Two fireplaces have been discovered, also a quantity of fragments of Roman pottery, glass, and iron articles, and coins of Victorinus, Claudius, Gothicus, Maximinus, Constantine, Alectus, &c. The Roman station of Vindonum is believed to have been in the neighbourhood.

LORD RONALD GOWER, brother of the Duke of Sutherland, is on a visit to Sutherlandshire, soliciting the support of the constituency as a candidate for the representation of the county, in the room of Sir David Dundas, who has resigned. The noble Lord, in an address he has issued, states that if returned to Parliament he will give a steady support to the cause of progress and improvement, promoting to the best of his power every measure calculated to advance the liberty and happiness of the people.

THE "PILGRIMS" to the "holy city" of Moscow are already on their way. On the frontier at Granica they were festively received, and at Warsaw are to be entertained at a grand banquet, to which seven Poles have been "invited" (at the risk of Siberia in the case of a refusal). In spite of all their temptations (their guests being free of every expense from the moment they touch Russian soil), the "Muscovites" have not succeeded in alluring many guests. The party that crossed the frontier of Granica consisted of twenty-two Czechs, thirteen Serbs, three Slovenes, two Slovaks, one Dalmatian, and one Ruthene.





THE REFORM MEETING AT ST. JAMES'S HALL, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 15.



AMATEUR THEATRICALS AT CHICHESTER: SCENE FROM "FOLLIES OF A NIGHT."





GENERAL VIEW OF THE CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE SOUTH KENSINGTON HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES BY HER MAJESTY.—(SEE PAGE 322.)



### THE REFORM MEETING AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

We this week publish an engraving illustrative of the great meeting held by the Reform Union in St. James's Hall on the 15th inst., and of which we gave an account in our last Number. It is probable that the appearance in the field of agitation of the old leaders of the Corn-Law League may have influenced Mr. Disraeli in conceding the abolition of compounding, and so making the borough franchise in England practically household suffrage, notwithstanding his bitter denunciations of "obsolete incendiaries" and "spouters of stale sedition." The memory of old defeat and humiliation sustained at the hands of these hard-headed North of Englanders was too strong for the right hon. gentleman's temper. The Union is to hold another meeting in St. James's Hall this evening (Saturday), under the presidency of Mr. Samuel Morley, which will be addressed by Mr. J. S. Mill, Mr. Layard, Sir John Gray, Mr. T. Hughes, and other gentlemen.

### AMATEUR THEATRICALS AT CHICHESTER.

THE fine old city of Chichester, which has not witnessed anything of a theatrical nature for upwards of thirty years, was enlivened a few days ago by an entertainment given by the amateurs of Bognor (a neighbouring watering-place), and which, we learn from the local press, was of a character greatly superior to that usually seen on an amateur stage. Mr. O'Brien Lomax, a gentleman possessing considerable talent, both as artist and actor, undertook the stage management, and also provided the scenery and stage, the former from his own pencil—this was greatly admired, particularly the drop scene, a charming Italian landscape. The piece of the evening, from which the scene in our engraving is taken, was the vaudeville comedy entitled the "Follies of a Night." It was most admirably acted throughout, and it would be difficult to say which character deserved most praise, so excellent was the cast. The Duchess de Chartres (Miss Crohan) was at once fascinating and dignified, and indeed, played her part to perfection. She was most gracefully attended by her lovely lady-in-waiting, Mdlle. Duval (Miss F. Crohan). The Duke (by Mr. C. G. Edwards) was an admirably portrayed character and a most gentlemanly piece of acting. The old Doctor (by Mr. O'Brien Lomax) was a masterpiece, the by-play of the perplexed old Esculapius evincing much study and talent. Pierre Palliot was performed by Mr. E. H. Selfe in a manner which will long be remembered by all who witnessed it. It was simply perfect. The minor parts of Count de Brissac, Officer, and Servant were well sustained by Captain H. Repton, Mr. Crohan, and Mr. C. H. Wollaston. The dresses and "get-up" were most effective, and in excellent taste. The comedy was followed by the burlesque of "Patient Penelope," which was played with great spirit, and evoked considerable applause. The acting of Mr. C. H. Wollaston (a young gentleman of considerable histrionic powers) in the character of Penelope was deservedly much admired; indeed, the whole performance was decidedly a brilliant success. The interest evinced in the visit of the amateurs, as well as the cause for which they played (the reconstruction of the cathedral organ), was so great that it was found necessary to reserve the whole of the seats in the hall, which was filled by the rank, beauty, and fashion of the city and neighbourhood.

### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THERE was in the tea-room at the House of Commons, the other day, a meeting of Scotch Liberals to consider the Scotch Reform Bill; and then and there it was unanimously determined to oppose to the last the redistribution of seats clauses. These clauses are ingeniously framed to increase the Conservative strength in Scotland, by eliminating all the towns from the counties; and this the Liberal Scotch members declare they will not have. And as three-fourths of the Scotch members are Liberals, and as all the English Liberals will help their brother Scots in this fight, Disraeli will certainly have once more to make a concession; but I do not think that the fight can come off this year. Both the Scotch bill and the Irish will, I think, be postponed till next Session. Rumour says that the Government mean to drop the redistribution clauses of the English bill, and bring them in embodied in a separate bill next year. And I think that this is very likely to be done; for time is fitting away fast, and to get the enfranchising clauses safely passed by the middle of August will furnish work enough.

There was also, on Tuesday, I think, a meeting of Irish members in the tea-room. The subject under discussion at this gathering of Hibernians was Irish railways and their difficulties, and it was resolved to urge the Government to buy all these railways. The meeting was, I hear, quite unanimous. Irishmen, it is said, are never unanimous except when they want something of the Government; then they always agree, and when they do agree their unanimity is wonderful. I should not be surprised to hear that the Government have listened to this proposal. The Indian Government has guaranteed 5 per cent to all the Indian railways. Indeed, India, without such a guarantee, never could have got railways; and if it can be proved that Irish railways cannot be maintained without Government help, I think it will be given.

Burke, the condemned Fenian, is dying; and the Government is in a dilemma. It had resolved to execute this man; but to carry a dying man to the gallows would revolt public sentiment. Better, one would say, let the poor wretch die in peace. Indeed, clemency to all the condemned Fenians would be better policy than severity. Men talk flippantly about striking the Irish disaffected with terror; but this is very old, and ought by this time to have become an obsolete policy. These foolish men, if they were to be imprisoned for a few years only, would be forgotten. Haug them, and the lively imagination of the Irish will canonise them as martyrs. At all events, this dying man must not be hanged. I do not believe that Lord Naas advocates severity. He, I think, from all I know of him, is inclined to lean to mercy.

A good deal of controversy, in the shape of letters to the newspapers and talk at the clubs and in society, has arisen within the last few days as to the cruelty of feeding the snakes at the Zoological Gardens on live rabbits, pigeons, &c. Some think this a barbarous practice, and likely to foster a cruel disposition in those who witness it; while others deny that there is any cruelty in the matter, and argue that as it is the nature of snakes to feed on living prey, so to feed them is acting in accordance with the ordinances of Providence. For my part, I object to bringing Providence into such a discussion, and am inclined to look upon the exhibition of savage creatures rending their prey, whether living or dead, but especially the former, as anything but an improving spectacle. I know that visitors to the gardens generally like to see the beasts at "feeding time," and the more savage the creature the greater seems to be the popular enjoyment; but I doubt if it be wise to indulge this propensity in the vulgar. To me such exhibitions as snakes devouring living rabbits and vultures rending the quivering flesh of quick rats is simply sickening, and I am sure similar sensations are experienced by other persons. Could not "feeding time" be so arranged as either to precede or follow the opening of the gardens to the general public? Sentiments of natural history could be admitted when the said general public—who are not students of natural history—are absent. It certainly is not well that women and children should witness such scenes as "feeding time" displays.

If we "Bridgiers" be not merry, it is not for lack, just now, of comic periodicals. *Punch* is an old, and, allowing for all deficiencies, a meritorious favourite; *Fun*, under the guidance of Mr. Tom Hood, has gained a firm hold on public approval; and within the last week or so, two new candidates for favour have appeared. The first of these, *Judy*, which has reached its fourth number, is in all respects a very close imitation—and echo—of *Punch*, except that it is only half the price. The wrapper and general get-up of *Judy* is so close a copy of the older publication, that one is apt to suspect that she grounds a part, at least, of her hopes of success on the chance of being "taken in by mistake." Her cartoon this week is drawn by Mr. M. Morgan, and, of course, is clever; but the good lady seems to have made a mistake in her treatment of the subject. I beg to

remind *Judy* that it was the Derby dilly, and not Beales's donkey-cart, that "came to grief" in the park affair. Beales undoubtedly had the best of it in that business; and even in Reform, Beales and democracy, and not Derby and Toryism, are in the ascendant really, whatever may be the case ostensibly. "Mend the instance, Shepherd." Moreover, the sketch is a close reproduction of one of John Tenniel's happiest cartoons. The other comic journal bears the somewhat savage title of the *Tomahawk*, and its conductors proclaim their intention to act up to their name and scalp all and sundry, sparing neither "age, sex, rank, nor position." Very sanguinary sentiments these! which I hope will be so far moderated in practice as to admit of some consideration for certain ages and a certain sex. The "braves" of the *Tomahawk*, I fear, are rather young on the war-path; they are not quite "posted up" in the marks of the trail they have struck, or they would not perpetrate stale jokes. For instance, in the last (the second) number we are treated to that jest about "personal rating" which must be pretty musty by this time. It was vented by Bernal Osborne in the House of Commons some six weeks at least since; then it was bandied about from mouth to mouth for a week or two, till it found its way into *Fun* about a fortnight ago; and now it is served up in the *Tomahawk* as though it were quite fresh and bran new! Then we have a cast of a future Ministry, in which Beales is King, D.D., and fills every office in the Government except Secretary for War, which is appropriated to Bright, and one or two others, Foreign Affairs being given to Whalley and "Public Worship" to Bradlaugh. Why, this sort of thing has been done repeatedly before, notably, and cleverly, in *Punch*, at least twelve months ago, when Bright was likewise located in the War Office! Somewhat "stale sedition" this! When the "braves" of the *Tomahawk* convey, as the wise call it, they should do so with more skill. Surely, too, jeering at Mr. Martin Tupper is about the stalest of fun nowadays. The *Tomahawk's* last cartoon depicts the burying of the hatchet between France and Prussia. I hope this may not prefigure the entombment of the *Tomahawk*. A report has been circulated that this journal is started by the Savage Club; but the statement is not correct.

I commend the following letter, which I have received from a lady correspondent, to the attention of the managers of the North-Western and South-Eastern railways, whichever it may concern:—"Mr. Lounger.—Will you allow me to complain, through you, of the inconvenience I suffered in a journey from Herts to Kent on Monday last? I can't do like other aggrieved persons, write to the *Times*, as I fear that an 'unprotected female' would receive small attention from that king of journals. Well, I was coming from Herts to Kent, as I have said, and, having charge of a child and some luggage, of course I wished to avoid changing as much as possible, and was persuaded to proceed from Willesden junction, via Kensington and Cannon-street, to the Kent line, that would take me home. Accordingly, at Willesden I left the train in which I had come from St. Albans. I travelled first class so far, because the second-class carriages on that branch are so dirty (they soil one's clothes dreadfully), and asked a porter to show me the ticket-office and platform for Cannon-street. He took me up one stair and down another, along passages and back again, till we had been over every bit of the station at Willesden, and all in the midst of the drenching rain. At last he said he could not find his way, and inquired of another porter, who put me into a carriage and said I was 'all right' for Cannon-street, but as the train was on the point of starting (I had been more than fifteen minutes racing about stairs, and passages, and platforms), I must take a ticket 'at the next station.' The next station, I suppose, was Kensington, and here I had to change carriages again, and undergo another period of anxiety and waiting. I was, besides, charged 8d. (second class) from Willesden and 9d. more to Cannon-street, making in all 1s. 5d., when the through fare from point to point, by the company's tables, is only 1s. By this course I was worried, wetted, delayed, and over-charged; and all because a porter 'could not find his way' at a station where I suppose it is his special business to direct and assist passengers. Was it not a shame?" I don't know which company's servants may have been to blame for my fair correspondent's troubles; the line belongs to the North-Western at the one end and to the South-Eastern at the other. But I can bear her out in the description she gives of some, at least, of the North-Western Company's carriages. The second class are about the dirtiest and most uncomfortable, and the first class the worst lighted, of any I know. I travelled over part of the same route myself the other day, on which occasion the carriage-lamp (first class, too) gave such a miserable light that I could not even see the face of my vis-à-vis when passing through the tunnels. Surely a company so rich and prosperous as the North-Western, which, as a rule, is an exceedingly well-conducted line, might manage matters better than this.

Miss Braddon has a new novel in the press, which, it is understood, will appear early next month, under the title of "Rupert Godwin."

### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

I have before me the "*St. Stephen's*," a Chronicle of Politics, and full and accurate Report of Proceedings in Parliament—a which is surely rather dear, but is no doubt calculated to be useful. It reports the speeches, analyses the division lists, and gives short comments upon the leading topics of the month. If it were made cheaper, it would probably be a success.

Talking about reports of speeches, what delicious bits of quotation you find attributed to public speakers by some of the morning journals. Within a week I have noticed two. Mr. Cardwell was made to quote our everlasting friend "the poet" (poor poet!) as having "sung":

A wise physician our wounds to heal  
Is more than realms to the public weal.

My humble recollection makes the couplet run—

A wise physician, skill'd our wounds to heal,  
Is more than armies to the public weal.

Again, in the women's-franchise discussion, Mr. Karslake was reported as having quoted "the poet" thus:—

Its truth the poet sings,

That the crown of all sorrow is remembering happier things.  
Admirers of "Locksley Hall" will, "when found, make a note of;" but my own copy of Tennyson gives—

This is truth the poet sings,

That a sorrow's crown of sorrows is remembering happier things.

However, it is possible that here the error was the speaker's, and not the reporter's; since the same orator (if the report be correct) referred to "the very learned works which the honourable member for Westminster had written on this subject." Now, Sir, I call that rich! Where are Mr. Mill's "learned works on this subject"? I don't even remember an essay upon it; though there is a paper written by the late Mrs. Mill, and published in the "*Dissertations*." Mr. Mill once said in the House (in replying to Sir John Pakington, I think), with the grave irony of which he is such a master, that if he had at any time begun to feel flattered that honourable members had read him, his gratification was soon qualified by the discovery that they had never read anything of his but the particular passages they chose to quote. The extent to which he is misunderstood was curiously illustrated in that very last discussion. He himself said he was quite pleased with the speeches against him, because they were all addressed to a point he had not raised. Just so! Mr. Mill never said women ought to vote at general elections; all he said was that to certain women (who bore civic burdens and fulfilled other civic duties like men) it was unjust to say, by force of law, "You shall not vote." Nobody who had really read his "*Liberty*" and other works could have mistaken him in this way, or have doubted that he would, like any other sane man, prefer Cordelia by her father's chair to Regan at the hustings. If honourable members would just turn to the first two volumes of the "*Dissertations*," they would have to give up their notion that Mr. Mill is a mere arid, unsympathetic logician, for these volumes contain some of the most delicate possible criticism on music and poetry. See, also, *passim*, the passionate, fervid paper on "Non-intervention," in the third volume, just published.

### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The revival of "Antony and Cleopatra" at the Princess's Theatre was a bold stroke of Mr. Vining's. "Antony and Cleopatra" is not a good acting play. There are but three good parts in the piece—Antony, Cleopatra, and Enobarbus—and the action of the play is impeded by a host of nonentities, wholly uninteresting in themselves, but capable, nevertheless, of diverting attention from the three important characters in the piece. Added to this drawback is the consideration that it is a play which, if it be placed upon the stage at all, must be placed upon the stage with a lavish hand. But this latter consideration, which would be calculated to act as a deterrent to most managers, is, in Mr. Vining's eyes, an admirable reason why it should be produced. He is never tired of buying scenery, dresses, and properties. He is never so happy as when he has hit upon a good excuse for introducing a "property" of fabulous price. The more gold fringe, white satin, green and gold brocade, and silver helmets he can heap upon the members of his company, the better pleased he is. To a manager of Mr. Vining's royal disposition Miss Glyn, with "Antony and Cleopatra" in her pocket, was a dramatic godsend. He has engaged Miss Glyn, he has produced her favourite tragedy, and he has put it on the stage with all the magnificent completeness for which his régime at the Princess's has always been distinguished. Of Miss Glyn's performance I find it difficult to speak. There are many good points in it. Her elocution is singularly distinct, and her "poses"—a feature of a tragic performance which I cannot help thinking is over-rated—are statuesque. She has passion, fire, vigour, and energy, but she lacks refinement. Her passion is the passion not of a queen, but of a frantic servant-girl; and her energy is the energy of an irrepressible shrew. I am disposed to think that Miss Glyn's recent "readings" of the tragedy at St. James's Hall (which I had not the advantage of hearing) were probably free from many of the defects which, in my opinion, tended to mar her performance last week. It is her action that is principally at fault; and this feature of her performance must, as a matter of necessity, have been very much kept under at a mere "reading." Of Mr. Loraine's Antony I find no difficulty whatever in speaking. It was simply commonplace, conventional, and "provincial"—there is no word that so well expresses that caricature of conventionality which we so often meet with in fourth or fifth rate actors. In his favour it may be said that he was "statuesque"—a recommendation which he shares with ballet-girls and poses plastiques—and that he was sufficiently conscientious to cut off his moustache—a sacrifice which in these days of heavy-cavalry "David Garricks" cannot be too highly commended. Mr. Loraine spoke every word of his part with excellent distinctness, which is, perhaps, all that goes to make eloquence. Of Mr. Verner's Enobarbus I am happy to be able to speak in terms of unqualified praise. It was in every respect an admirable performance, and, to my thinking, by far the best-played part in the piece. "Antony and Cleopatra" may have a long and successful run; but, if it does, it will be due rather to the magnificence of the scenery and the beauty of the costumes than to any special merit in the two principal performers. A quaint characteristic ballet opens the piece.

Mr. Tom Taylor's new drama, called, I believe, "Ups and Downs," will be produced next week at the HOLBORN.

At the ADELPHI, on Wednesday, we are promised a new drama, by Charles Reade, founded on Alfred Tennyson's poem "Dora."

"Patter versus Clatter" has been revived at the OLYMPIC, with marked success. Mr. Charles Mathews's famous "personations" are received with as much delight as when he first gave them.

Miss Carlotta Addison is engaged at the NEW ROYALTY, and will take a prominent part in Mr. T. W. Robertson's forthcoming comedietta.

"The Village Torment," a new comic ballet produced at the ALHAMBRA on Tuesday last, affording as it does such great scope for the display of Mr. F. Evans's tumbling abilities, must be pronounced a success; and if the "shaving business," which has been so often introduced at "nigger" performances was omitted, the ballet would be very amusing.

A NOTION FROM HANWELL.—The following paragraph, purporting to be extracted from the *Court Journal*, has been sent to us for insertion:—"We have been informed that the Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum, which we have usually assigned to Hanwell, is not in the parish of Hanwell at all, but in the precinct of Norwood, in the parish of Hayes. The manor was formerly called 'The Golden Manor,' and was presented by Queen Mary to Bishop Bonner and his successors for ever; in memory of which event the inhabitants, who are unwilling to be associated with the lunatic asylum, have determined on calling it for the future 'Bishopstown.' We have good authority for stating that the above statement is utterly at variance with the truth. On Saturday last a public meeting of the inhabitants of Hanwell was held to consider this same question, and the notion of a change of name of the village—for Hanwell is not a town—was scouted and ridiculed to the last degree. Not a hand was held up in favour of the proposed alteration. The lunatic asylum, distant some few yards only from the parochial boundary of Hanwell proper, has been named after the nearest village, and so far from being the opprobrium is the honour of the district in which it is placed. The proposal emanates solely from, and so far as we can learn, is solely supported by, a schoolmaster of the village. Is there not, in 'Nicholas Nickleby,' something to this effect, when the hero is said to ask, 'Is this Dotheboys Hall, Sir?' Mr. Wackford Squeers replies, 'Yes; I suppose I may call it a hall if I like. A man may call his house an island, if he pleases; there's no Act of Parliament against that. I believe!' This suburban school has, we perceive from an advertisement in the *Times*, been re-named 'Bishopstown (late Hanwell) College.' It is not a college; there is no town and no bishop; but, of course, the proprietor may please himself.

THE DIGEST OF LAW COMMISSION.—The first report of the Digest of Law Commission has been laid before Her Majesty. It is divided under two heads. In the first the Commissioners state what has to be done, as they conceive, in fulfilment of the commission entrusted to them by the Queen, and, secondly, how they propose to do it. They say:—"We think it clear that a work of this nature (regard being had especially to the importance of its carrying with it the greatest weight) could not be accomplished by private enterprise, and that it must be executed by public authority, and at the national expense. With respect to the means of accomplishing it, we have considered various plans. Any plan must, we think, involve the appointment of a commission or body for executing or superintending the execution of the work. We are not authorised by the terms of our Majesty's commission to undertake the execution or direction of such a work; but we are of opinion that it might be conveniently erected under our superintendence."

DEATH OF MR. CLARKSON STANFIELD, R.A.—We regret to learn the death of Mr. Clarkson Stanfield, the eminent Academician, after a lingering illness, on the 18th inst., at his residence, Hampstead. The deceased was in his seventy-fourth year. In his youth he was a sailor, and the numerous voyages he made contributed to his success as a marine painter. Having, in 1824, joined the Society of English Artists, he devoted three years to the study of painting, and at first he applied himself to landscape-painting. He came before the public in 1827, at one of the exhibitions of the British Institution, through a painting of large size, representing the "Wreckers off Fort Rongee." In the same year he sent to the Royal Academy the fine production "A Calm at Sea." These were soon followed by the "Neighbourhood of Chalon-sur-Saône," in 1829; "Mount St. Michael," in 1830; a series of "Views of Venice," painted for the Marquis of Lansdowne, in the same year; and other views of the same city in 1834, executed for the Duchess of Sutherland; and "The Battle of Trafalgar," in 1836. Mr. Stanfield occupied a long time the post of decorator at Drury-lane Theatre. The Royal Academy made him an Associate in 1832, and elected him an honorary member in 1835. He made frequent visits to the Continent. France, Italy, Holland, and Switzerland supplied him with numerous subjects of landscape study, varied by him to such a degree that it is sometimes difficult to recognise the hand of the painter. Among his later productions are "The Battle of Ichna," "The Day After the Wreck," "French Troops Crossing the Magra,"—an episode of the first campaign in Italy; "The Battle of Rovereto," "The Abandoned," "Wind against Tide," "The Victory Towed into Gibraltar after the Battle of Trafalgar," "The Siege of St. Sebastian," and "The Baze Rock." The stage was deeply indebted to the deceased artist for many beautiful works. It is said that he created, and afterwards painted out with his own brush, more scenic masterpieces than any other man, his industry throughout his career having been as remarkable as his genius.



## FINE ARTS.

## THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

(THIRD NOTICE.)

THE West Room this season is peculiarly rich in fine works, and may, indeed, be held to boast the picture of the year. When we take into consideration the fact that Mr. Poynter, though his career has been carefully noted by the cognoscenti since his "Pompeian Sentinel," is a dark horse—a term for which we claim the excuse of Derby week—as far as the general public is concerned, the attention which has been attracted by his "Israel in Egypt" (434) may be fairly considered to earn for it the distinction of being "the picture of the exhibition." Sir Edwin Landseer, Mr. Millais—even Mr. Leighton, with his "Venus"—must, for the nonce, give place to the younger artist, and will do so willingly. Their names are so well known that all they paint is looked for with eagerness, and they can afford to stand by and approve the triumph of a comparatively unknown painter who so well achieves his success as Mr. Poynter has done.

The painter brings before us the captive Israelites, driven by savage taskmasters, engaged in dragging to their sites in one of the vast temples of Egypt a pair of colossal granite lions. One of the figures is disappearing beneath the lofty portal, the second is being drawn along the broad rising causeway that winds up to the gate. The Pharaoh in his chariot, and his queen borne in her litter upon the shoulders of stalwart Nubians, look on at the efforts of the oppressed Hebrews, who, stripped to the skin, and cruelly lashed by the whips of their drivers, tug and strain at the ponderous load. A group of dancers fills up the opposite corner of the picture. In the centre a woman, bearing a water-jar, and an overseer, are trying to revive a young Hebrew who has fallen out overtaxed by the heat and labour. The whole picture is teeming with life and animation, which contrast admirably with the silence and solemnity of the great figures at the temple gates, where all the painted hieroglyphs are fresh and bright from the recent touches of the colourists. The idea of the picture is bold and original, its execution is masterly—broad in effect, yet careful in detail. The faults may be briefly indicated. The labouring captives have not the Jewish type sufficiently marked, and the nude figures, in some instances, have only an affectation of correctness in the drawing of the thews and muscles.

Mr. Leighton's work in this room is "The Knuckle-bone Player" (500), a charming study, remarkable for graceful drawing and that peculiar "peachiness" of colour which, when not overdone, is one of the finest elements of Mr. Leighton's success. Mr. Goodall's "Rachel" (469) seems to us a repetition of last year's Hagar and this year's Rebecca; but Mr. Goodall's repetitions are better than the novelties of minor painters. Mr. A. Hughes's "L'Enfant Perdu" (506), a little French child just discovered by its parents, who have been seeking for it in the wood, is a pleasing picture. It has not the over-brilliance which marks other works by this artist, and the want of expression in the heads does not assert itself too strongly in the gloom of the subject. The painting of the light thrown by the lantern through some fir-branches is curiously good. Mr. Burgess gives us a scene from Spanish life. His "Students of Salamanca" (429) pay respect to Beauty by laying down their cloaks for her to walk upon—not altogether to the delight of Beauty's natural guardians. The "St. Anthony's Day" (542) of Mr. Long may rank with Mr. Burgess's work.

Mr. Nicol essays, and with considerable effect, a new style of subject in "Kiss and Mak' it Up" (475). There has been a little tiff between mother and child, and the worthy cottager is acting as peacemaker between his dear ones. There is a hovering on the borders of pathos and humour in this picture that will enhance greatly the reputation of the painter. In "Matins" (433) Mr. Tourrier would seem to have aimed only at the humorous, but he effects something beyond it. There is a feeling of admiration roused for the enthusiastic young monk who steps boldly across the snowy quadrangle to the cold chapel in the early dawn; while the poor old fellow with the frost pinching his rosy face appeals to our pity. There is a suggestion of the slenderness of the comfort he can get by tripping barefoot over the snow and carrying his sandals, so that he may have them dry to wear, that gives one the shudders. Mr. Marks's "Falsalt's Own" (430) abounds in character. Pistol, the ancient, with his banner, leads the way, Bardolph coming a little behind him, and the ragged regiment shambles along with a hang-dog look that quite justifies the fat knight's reluctance to be seen marching in their company.

Mr. Wynfield's "Oliver Cromwell on the Night Before his Death" (494) is a remarkable picture, and one that will not be readily forgotten. The solemnity of a death-bed has seldom been better realised, while the technical qualities show a great advance. In Mr. Marcus Stone's "Nell Gwynne" (444) the best thing is the figure of the old soldier who turns to take the orange Nell is offering him. The composition is somewhat scattered, and the colour thin. These last objections may be applied also to Mr. Lucy's "Hampten" (425). A low tone of colour, when it is not dull and heavy, is very far from pleasing, as may be seen in Mr. Armstrong's very clever "Gathering Peaches" (486) or Mr. Donaldson's "Vaticum" (431), but in these cases it has power of drawing or intensity of feeling to back it.

Mr. Maldarelli's "Pompeian Beauty" (439) is a pleasing composition. Mr. E. Crowe's "Charles Knighting the Loin" (435) is, as far as we can see, a great improvement on previous works. Mr. Armitage's "Savonarola" (432) is in the exaggerated Academic style, and does not please us as we would have the works of so clever a painter do. The hand of Savonarola is badly drawn, and its action is excessive, to the verge of caricature. Mrs. Ward's picture of "Joan of Arc" (523) pleases us far better than her husband's painting, but it has a slightly stagey look. The male figure seems needlessly melodramatic and morose, and Joan is hardly the right type of woman for a heroine. Miss Ellen Edwards is not so happy this year as she has previously been. Her "Tenderness" (498) does not appeal so directly to our feelings as her former works have done, and is not quite so good in colour. The subject is pretty enough—a young mother reclining on a tiger-skin and watching her child, who is giving cherries to a pair of little grass-parrots. The position of the mother's head is unfortunate, for it throws a shadow on the neck which makes the latter look as if it were broken. The picture is suggestive of an attempt to imitate Mr. Millais, and Miss Edwards is too clever for that sort of work. Mr. Roberts exhibits a little bit of homely sentiment in his picture (from "Our Mutual Friend") of the old Jew on the City house-top watching the unfolding of his primrose. It is admirably conceived and soundly painted.

Mr. Lidderdale comes before us this year with a larger canvas than usual. His "Matolettes" (480) is painted with great care and the figures are picturesquely grouped. M. K. Halliwell's "Newhaven Minstrels" (530) is clever, as is also Mr. F. Holl's "Faces in the Fire" (519). Mr. Weekes infuses a vast amount of character and variety into his "Prisoners of War" (459). His knights and men-at-arms have the merit—too rare in the works of most painters of mediæval martial pictures—of looking lifelike and commonplace fellows, "not too good for human nature's daily food" and plenty of hard knocks and buffets.

Mr. J. Faed, whose style is, we fear, for the sake of his originality, becoming a great deal too much like that of his brother, gives us in "The Ballad" (518) a couple of damsels with their attention sorely distracted from their household work by an old pedlar's reading of the latest ditty from Seven Dials. Mr. J. Archer is not altogether as successful as usual in "The Introduction" (534). The figures are stiff, the faces uninteresting, and the composition is weak. Mr. Hardy does not exceed—perhaps scarcely equals—his works of former years in his "Christmas Day" (495); but there are passages of much merit in it, the least felicitous portion being the woman's face.

Mr. Rossiter's "Little Singer" (427), Mr. Topham's "Funeral Torch" (473), and Mr. Morrish's "Cottage Door" (442), are pictures that should not be overlooked; while Mrs. Newcomen's "Carthorses" (482), though so ill placed that it can scarcely be seen, appears to have considerable merit.

Having exhausted the principal figure-subjects in the West Room we must postpone our notice of the landscapes and other works it contains until next week.

## Literature.

*A Month in Russia during the Marriage of the Czarevitch.* By Edward Dicey. London: Macmillan and Co.

Mr. Dicey, the only English newspaper correspondent who attended the festivities held at St. Petersburg on the occasion of the recent marriage of the Czarevitch, certainly turned his opportunities on that occasion to excellent account. He remained in Russia altogether a month; and during that period saw more ordinary sights than other travellers of inferior habits of observation would have seen in double the time; besides a series of magnificent spectacles which no Englishman going to Russia merely as a tourist would have had the privilege of seeing at all. A month is not a long time to stay in Russia for a man who wishes to study the country thoroughly. Neither, for such a purpose as that, is a year. But a month is quite long enough for a writer whose main object is to note the striking features of Russian national life; and Mr. Dicey on the very first day of his arrival in St. Petersburg observed many things characteristically Russian which would no doubt have failed to impress him as such if he had delayed writing about them until, say, the very last day before his departure. A writer who in the present day went to Paris and told us on his return how the boulevards were paved, that the work-girls wore white caps instead of bonnets, and that it was the custom to stick up a board inscribed "complet" at the back of an omnibus as soon as the vehicle was full, would expose himself to the ridicule of the reading public. But on visiting a place still so unfamiliar to us as St. Petersburg, the very best thing a writer can do is to give himself up to his first impressions, and tell us what he thought of a droski when he first saw it, how he fared at his hotel, what the first Russians he met with said to him, and so on. Mr. Dicey's letters are full of freshness, because he evidently put down everything that struck him as it struck him. The worst of this method is that it may sometimes cause the writer to mistake individual for national peculiarities; but Mr. Dicey has a cultivated instinct for observation, and there is certainly not one error of this kind in his book. He underestimates the Nevski-Prospect; but it is easy to see that he had long nourished a sort of anti-Aristidical feeling against that magnificent thoroughfare, with its perpetual moving exhibition of the men, women, and horses of all nations. Tired of hearing it so universally praised, he maliciously seeks to give it its quietus, as far as the English public are concerned, by ranking it a little lower than Regent-street. It also seems to Mr. Dicey that the Moscow Opera House, the most spacious, and in all respects the most commodious, in Europe, is inferior to Covent Garden, where it is impossible to get to a stall without having to fight your way, and where the boxes on the grand tier are much inferior to those of the Moscow opera on the tier above. With the exception of the Nevski-Prospect and the Moscow Opera House, Mr. Dicey certainly does not undervalue any person or thing in Russia. He liked the country exceedingly, though he tells us frankly, as soon as he gets to the Prussian frontier, that he would not live there on any account.

Mr. Dicey claims and deserves great credit for his self-denial in making "no profound disclosures as to the secret designs, schemes, and intentions of the Russian Government." Indeed, until the twentieth and last chapter of his work he abstains, in the most praiseworthy manner, from all mention of political subjects. More than this cannot be expected of mortal journalists; and when Mr. Dicey, in his last ten pages, does, in spite of himself, rush into political disquisition—protesting all the time that he means nothing by it—we not only forgive him, but thank him for his brief and involuntary postscript. But in these last ten pages he certainly makes up for lost time—as far, at least, as it is possible to do so in so short a space. The twentieth chapter is a little world of politics. Mr. Dicey apologises for furnishing no "intricate and erudite information as to the political factions in Moldo-Wallachia," and avows his inability to describe "the present state of the relations between the Courts of St. Petersburg and Teheran." Whether the Russian Government is "preparing for war, intriguing in the Principalities, or forming alliances with Prussia," he cannot say. The Czar may be preparing to send Prince Menschikoff once more to Constantinople; but of this Mr. Dicey knows "as little as I or anybody else knows about the Ruthenians or the Latinising movement within the Greek communion." Talk to him, however, about the "manifest destiny" of Russia in regard to the Bosphorus, the true meaning of the Russo-American alliance, the views of Russia towards England, more especially in connection with the Eastern question, and you will find that you have addressed yourself to the right man.

"A Month in Russia" is admirably got up, and is adorned with photographic portraits of the Czarevitch and his bride; or, rather, we should say, it is adorned with the portrait of the beautiful Maria Feodorovna (late Princess Dagmar), and contains one of her husband. As for the printing, it is clear, elegant, and as eminently readable as the author's own style.

*Marjorie Dudingstoune: a Tale of Old St. Andrews.* By WILLIAM FRANCIS COLLIER, LL.D., Author of "Pictures of the Periods," &c. Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo

Mr. Nimmo seems to be one of the most active and enterprising publishers in the northern metropolis. Within the last few months we have had several works issued by him under our notice, of some of which, such as Leighton's verbose and trumpery "Romances of Ancient Edinburgh," we felt ourselves compelled to speak our mind pretty freely and in no very flattering terms. Good quality is rarely co-existent with large quantity; and so it may well be that among the numerous works published by Mr. Nimmo some must be of inferior character. He may, therefore, be forgiven for issuing such trash as that indited by Mr. Alexander Leighton, more especially as some really good books emanate from this young and enterprising house. And a really good work is that now before us: enough, in itself, to excuse all the publishing sins Mr. Nimmo has been induced to commit at the instigation of the Leightons and other literary triflers by whom he may be surrounded. The epoch of Dr. Collier's story is the reign of "the Commons' King, King James," fifth of that name; and in the course of the tale we have a complete "picture of the period" in the characters introduced and the language they use; as well as of the manners and customs, habits of thought, tone of mind, degree of enlightenment, and so on, of the age and people. In his topography, too, our author is singularly accurate, as we, who happen to know the city of Kilrule and its neighbourhood well, can testify. All, of course, is much changed now in St. Andrews. The castle is gone utterly; and of the cathedral and other ecclesiastical edifices mere fragments only exist. John Knox and his followers made a pretty clean sweep of the "rookery" as well as of the "rooks" at the Reformation. And but little remains of the old city itself as it existed in the time of which Dr. Collier treats: South-street, though still the principal thoroughfare, is utterly unlike what it must have been when Bailie Dudingstoune's booth was one of its most prominent features, and when the pretty Marjorie picked her way among the heaps of rubbish, the gullies, and the mud which then cumbered it. The old town has been swept and garnished; and, thanks to Major Lyon Playfair, who some years ago occupied its civic chair—is he still alive and active, we wonder—St. Andrews is now one of the cleanest and best-governed towns, not merely in Scotland, but in Great Britain. The natural features of the seacoast and of the neighbouring country, however, still remain unchanged, and are easily recognised, through our author's descriptions, by anyone acquainted with them.

Dr. Collier's story is at once simple, attractive, and well told. The interest of the reader is maintained unflinchingly throughout, and we feel that we have before us personages who may have lived, acted, and spoken as they are here represented as doing. Perfect historical accuracy, too, is preserved; the first beginnings of that great religious revolution which was completed in the following reign—that of the unhappy Mary Queen of Scots—being sufficiently and truly indicated without being at all unnecessarily obtruded into

the narrative. Of course, we are too enlightened now to believe in the power of the diabolical incantations of the witch Atkinsoune; but people were not so wise in the days of the "good King James," and so even she has a fitting place in the story. Marjorie Dudingstoune is a perfect type of the sweet Scotch lassie of that or of any time; the worthy Bailie, her father, is a genuine representative of the old Scottish "merchant and magistrate," who was scrupulously upright in his dealings, strong in his prejudices, and boldly did his duty, "fearing not the face of man." In the fortunes of Marjorie's lover, Walter Lynne, and his mother, and even of the "ne'er-do-weel" Jock and his reformation, we cannot help taking an interest; while for Alan Lockhart we feel the contempt which a villain—and a weak and cowardly one—never fails to engender. We will not spoil the reader's interest in the story by revealing the plot or indicating the course of the action, but content ourselves with heartily recommending the book, which is written in a terse, pure, and vigorous style, and which will, both as a story and as an accurate delineation of the manners and people of the time, amply repay perusal. It is not often that so thoroughly satisfactory a work is to be met with. One little slip we may note that Dr. Collier has fallen into; and that we have only seen one such fault in a careful perusal of the book, proves his general accuracy. On page 233 of volume II. Mrs. Dudingstoune says that she read death *printed* on the face of her husband. Now, we suspect that the art invented by Gutenberg could hardly have been so well known in Scotland at the time in question as to furnish figures of speech to the denizens of a provincial city like St. Andrews.

*Sir Charles Wood's Administration of Indian Affairs from 1859 to 1866.* By ALGERNON WEST. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

Old "Indians" will be likely to discuss this book warmly. Sir Charles Wood, as a Minister, had been everything by turns, and nothing strong; and our chief possession in all the world had the jag end of his services at a most important period. Many Indians—not of the old class, such as we see in farces, rolling in liverless wealth; but the younger kind, with good constitutions and as much in debt as if they had stayed at home—many Indians will assail Sir Charles fiercely, and will consider Mr. Algernon West in the light of anything but an unbiased judge. But Mr. West is well qualified for the office chosen—that of discussing the merits of the late chief of the India Office; and very little care will be necessary to nullify the undoubted leaning which he shows in favour of the retired Minister. Mr. West is Deputy Director of Indian Military Funds, and has been Private Secretary to Sir Charles Wood and Earl De Grey and Ripon. He has been in possession of the private correspondence of those Secretaries of State with the successive Governors-General, and various India Office officials have supplied additions, revisions, and corrections. The book is of no great length, but it is closely and carefully compiled; and shows, better than anything we know of, what has been really done for the good of India since the Great Mutiny. A list of the subjects explained is sufficient to show that they cannot be discussed here. They comprise Home Government, Government of India and Parliamentary Legislation, Law and Justice, Indigo Rent and Contract Law (one of the most interesting chapters, and calculated to astonish the general reader), Finance, Currency, Land Revenue, Public Works, Cotton, Education, Political, Military, Police, and Navy. Perhaps the chief results of Sir Charles Wood's administration are connected with finance, and his sagacity in selecting able financiers nobody will pretend to dispute. Mr. West says that on taking office he had to face an expenditure of £50,475,000, with an income of £39,705,000; to provide by loan for deficiency of income, with the credit of Indian security seriously impaired; and, insufficient as the means of India were to meet the current expenditure on public works, to raise funds for an increased outlay on that account. But he resigned office with the annual income equal to the expenditure, with Indian credit thoroughly re-established, and this notwithstanding a considerable increase in the amount expended on public works.

We recommend Mr. West's book to all those who find modern India a mystery. A change in the country is rapidly taking place; and society, native and English, are falling into proper places. The years here discussed are the most important of our time, and as good history as any careful reader need enjoy.

*Household Manuals.* London: Routledge and Sons.

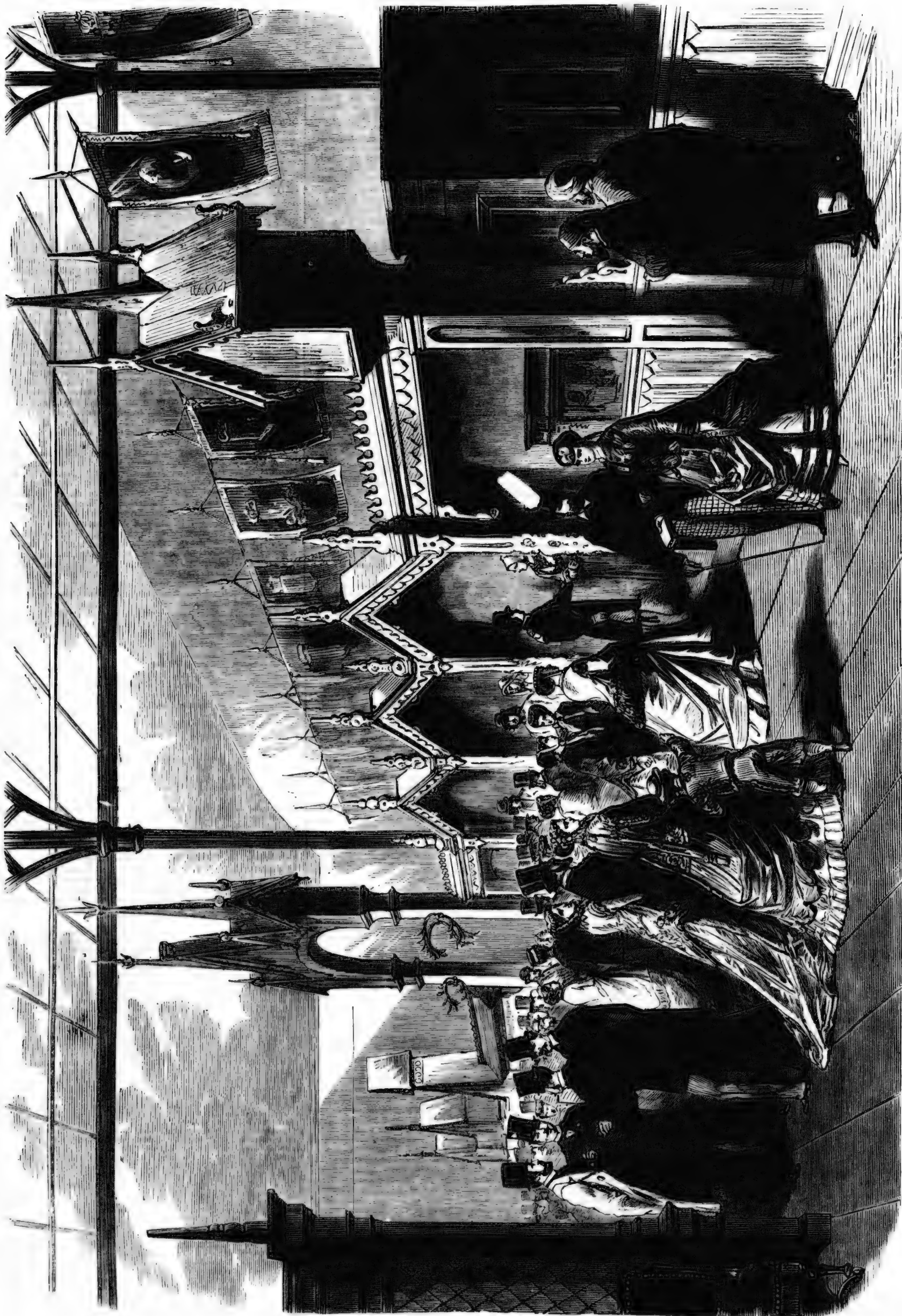
Messrs. Routledge are always supplying the public with useful books of all sorts, but perhaps their series of "Household Manuals," while the least pretentious, are the most useful of all. We have before noticed individual members of the series, and have much pleasure in welcoming the most recent additions to this library of the household. These are—"How to Preserve Fruit in One Hundred Different Ways," by Georgiana Hill, a lady who has shown that she knows how to do a great many useful things in a century of ways; "Good Food: What it is, and how to get it," two very important points, information on which is given by Dr. Edwin Lancaster, a gentleman well qualified for the task; and "Dinners and House-keeping," by G. P. The author of this book is modest, and is content to veil his (or her) personality under initials; but this cannot have been from any reason there is to be ashamed of his (or her) work, for the little volume is a most creditable performance, albeit the theme is generally (perhaps erroneously) supposed to be somewhat prosaic. Indeed, all these volumes are most useful, and are carefully prepared.

THE TICHBORNE BARONETCY.—BIRTH OF A SON.—News reached Winchester on Monday afternoon that the wife of Sir Roger Tichborne, the claimant to the Tichborne estates, had been safely delivered of a son at eleven o'clock on Monday morning. The bells of the old cathedral were immediately set ringing, and continued to pour forth their notes of rejoicing for some hours to celebrate the event. It would appear that at least some decided steps are about to be taken by Sir Roger Tichborne to establish his claim to the baronetcy. Several bills have been printed ready for filing in the Court of Chancery, a step which, it is expected, will be taken almost immediately; but up to Saturday, it is understood, nothing definite had taken place in this respect.—*Morning Post.*

DEATH OF MR. HOOKHAM.—The death is announced of a gentleman who bore a great name amongst the literary circles of the last generation. Long before "Mudie" was born, or the London Library Company thought of, Mr. Hookham supplied the reading public (not quite so extensive, by-the-way, as it is now) with all the newest works in every department of literature, on the principle of circulation which has, since his business days, so rapidly grown amongst us. In Continental literature Mr. Hookham was as great as Mr. Murray is now in travels, and his name was familiar to everybody in Europe who took an interest in any literary subject. "The Library" in Old Bond-street was the habitual resort of the *litterateurs* of the day, and at all times they met with a courteous reception from its proprietor. Amongst the changes which came over establishments of this kind, when the taste for reading became more generally diffused and lighter literature superseded to a great extent the more solid works for which Mr. Hookham's house was noted, "The Library" in Old Bond-street became the property of a company, which is now supplying works of the highest class in foreign literature, as well as the standard productions of our own country. Mr. Hookham had attained his eighty-first year.

DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The following extract of a letter, dated Johanna, Feb. 23, received by the late mail, would seem to place the fate of Dr. Livingstone beyond a doubt:—"You have heard, long before you get this," that Dr. Livingstone was killed. The Johanna men whom I engaged last March to accompany Dr. Livingstone into Africa arrived at Zanzibar last December, and were sent here by the Consul. I have received an account of their journey and of the attack of the savages on the doctor's party in which he was killed. The only witness of his death states that about noon they were travelling over a large plain; the doctor and nine Africans were ahead. Suddenly he heard the Africans cry out, "Mavele! Mavele!" He ran on and saw a number of men rushing on the doctor and the Africans. Three made for the doctor, who shot two, but was cut down himself by the third. Mavosa, the narrator of this and event, fired his gun and ran back to his countrymen, and they escaped into the grass and bushes. At dusk they returned to the spot where Dr. Livingstone was attacked, and found his body, the bodies of the two Maveles whom he shot, also the bodies of four of the Africans. They buried the doctor, and then set off as fast as they could go on their return to the coast, and, after escaping two or three times from bands of Maveles, reached Kilua, on the coast. Unless some of the Africans survive and reach Zanzibar, which is very improbable, this is all that will ever be known of the fate of Dr. Livingstone. The Maveles, who have come from the south in considerable numbers, are killing the unfortunate negroes, who have neither courage nor the means of defending themselves."





THE NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH SECTION OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.





SUDERMANNIA.



SCANIA.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

We have already given some brief account of the various objects to be seen in a journey through that section of the park of the great French Exhibition traversed by turning to the left after entering by the Bridge of Jena, and our researches had brought us as far as the Egyptian house and the Tunisian café, near which a real Arab barber is ready to operate upon anybody who does not object to be

shaved in public, and so to become an object of irrepressible curiosity to a large number of sightseers, who regard him as part of the entertainment. In our last Number, too, we published an Engraving of the exterior of the Imperial pavilion, behind which we emerged from the machinery houses. This building is certainly a "thing of beauty" inside, although it has a bizarre look, and seems scarcely substantial enough to be a joy for ever. The

grand saloon devoted to the Emperor is certainly a very splendid apartment in the French sense, although to the English eye it loses in comfort what it gains in magnificence; and in spite of its beautiful decorations, its enormous lustre, and the plants and vases that ornament it, seems to want furnishing. It must be remembered that it is a pavilion, however; and the weather, lately leaping back from midsummer to midwinter, has checked the enthusiasm which was



TELLEMARKEN.



SAETERSDALEN.



rapidly culminating in favour of sylvan retreats, whether bowers, pavilions, or canopies, although the transitory sunshine lured the authorities to restore the velvet awnings along the approach to the grand entrance; and the consequence has been another series of shower-baths, so obviously inconvenient that the rain water is run off by means of metal tubes, which discharge themselves at various points where people may escape by keeping a bright look-out for them.

We have already referred to the costumes which are such a general attraction in the Egyptian and Norwegian Courts, and we this week publish Engravings of some of the most piquant of these examples of the dress of the people of Northern Europe, where the most remarkable differences are to be discovered even in districts adjoining each other. The first group represents the peasants of the province of Sudermannia, in Sweden; or, at least, those of the people of Sudermannia who belong to the parish of Wingank; and a most respectable and sedate dress they have adopted, though it must be remembered that these costumes represent not only the holiday suits but the summer attire of the people. This is obviously the case with the sturdy Scanian in the second group, who, like all the rest, is evidently bent on a little love-making under the influence of his Sunday suit and a feast-day. Depend on it, he is rather differently equipped when he is driving his flying team with that short handled whip far beyond the one-storied red wooden houses of the village and the squat belfry of the parish church; or guiding a Norrland sled over the solid snow and ice. Shaggy sheepskin jackets with the skin inside, reindeer coats, striped woollen petticoats, and red woollen stockings, are the dresses for that time and in the bitter stinging cold, which burns rather than freezes the skin, and makes it necessary to plough the high road with a wooden frame, that the sleds may pass over the snow. As to Norway, we are getting more familiar with fjelds and fjords every year; and the merry, good-humoured, simple men and women of that homely, hearty land are likely to run the risk of being spoiled by the whims and follies of tourists, who spoil the honesty, as well as the temper, of the people amongst whom they go to pry, and stare, and make supercilious and insolent comments. The Vöring Foso and the Bergenstift will soon be "done" by excursionists, and everybody will have been to Dalecarlia and Tellemarken; and the talk of second-rate dinner-tables will be of repasts of milk, and cheese, and dark bread, and wild strawberries in some cottage of Satersdalen. Then these picturesque costumes, the cherished garments of tradition, the heirlooms of families, the distinctive marks of various communities, will disappear; and twelve-shilling trousers, shooting-coats made to self-measurement, Brummagem jewellery, and the progress of sham and shoddy, will take their place. It cannot be helped! If real progress and the advancement of the human race is to come, even with the attendant disadvantages of a shoddy civilisation, we can never hope to stem the tide, and must comfort ourselves with the thought that shoddy itself will be ultimately superseded—tried by the fire and utterly consumed. We can only preserve some memorial of the simple if stagnant life of those who are not yet personally influenced either by what we call progress or by the diffusion of a sham civilisation; and, to speak the truth, we may preserve the pleasant recollections of them by regarding them in their holiday aspect.

By-the-by, in connection with the displays from Northern Europe we owe an apology to our readers. We had prepared two Engravings last week, one portraying the Swedish and Norwegian section and the other the Central Garden of the Exhibition. Both were page engravings, and by one of those accidents that will occur in the best-regulated printing-offices, the one got substituted for the other, that is, the Central Garden appeared as the Norwegian Court. We now present our readers with the latter Engraving, and beg them to read the part of our last week's article as applicable to our present illustration.

#### OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"DON GIOVANNI" had been advertised for performance at the Royal Italian Opera one evening last week; but, in consequence of the sudden indisposition of Mdlle. Adelina Patti, it was at the last moment put off, the "Marriage of Figaro" being substituted for it. The "Marriage of Figaro" (of course with Mdlle. Pauline Lucas in the part of Cherubino) was again repeated on Saturday last. We have now reached what is called "the height of the season." This week no less than five performances were announced—on Monday, "Faust;" on Tuesday, "Lucia di Lammermoor;" on Thursday, "L'Africaine;" on Friday, "Don Giovanni;" and on Saturday, "Fra Diavolo."

At Her Majesty's Theatre, "Lucrezia Borgia" was played on Saturday last for the first time this season, when that admirable singer, Mdlle. Trebelli-Bettini, appeared in the character of Maffio Orsini. In the legend of the first act, in the finale to the second, and, above all, in the drinking-song of the third, Mdlle. Trebelli displayed the admirable qualities of voice and style for which all who have attended Her Majesty's Theatre during the last few years must value her. No more accomplished singer of any kind exists than Mdlle. Trebelli, while, among the singers of mezzo-soprano and contralto music it would be impossible to name one at all comparable to her. Mdlle. Trebelli was received with enthusiasm. She was recalled at the end of the first act, and was encored in the brilliant bacchanalian song of the third. Nothing could be more vigorous, manly, and thoroughly artistic than Signor Mongini's general delivery of the tenor music in "Lucrezia." In the popular solo of the first act ("Di Pescatore"), in the highly dramatic trio of the second, and in the introduced air (on this occasion the air from "Don Sébastien") of the third, Signor Mongini was like admirable. Signor Gassier played the part of the Duke with his usual ability. Of the new prima donna, Mdlle. Giacomini, we will merely remark that she displayed considerable energy throughout the opera, and that she gained much applause by her rendering of the beautiful "M'odi ah M'odi" of the last act.

Most of the series of concerts given by our choral and orchestral societies are now drawing to a close. The Musical Society of London seems to have collapsed through the death of its lamented conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. The season of the Sacred Harmonic Society came to an end on Friday, the 17th, when Mr. Costa's "Eli" was performed.

While other concert-givers are bringing their entertainments to a conclusion, Mr. Charles Hallé is just commencing his. The first of Mr. Hallé's highly interesting pianoforte recitals took place, at St. James's Hall, on Friday afternoon, the 17th, when the programme was made up of Beethoven's solo sonata in D, three preludes and fugues by Bach, Schubert's sonata in A minor, Beethoven's sonata for pianoforte and violoncello in F (violoncello, Signor Piatti), and Heller's polonaise in E flat. The chief novelty, then, at this concert was Schubert's sonata in A minor, which, however, is not absolutely new to English amateurs, it having been performed for the first time in London ten years ago by Mdlle. Arabella Goddard. Mr. Hallé's execution of Schubert's sonata, as of the other pieces included in the concert, was marked by all the high qualities which invariably distinguish the playing of this careful and conscientious artist. It is announced that, in order to enable Mr. Hallé to produce the whole of the sonatas, &c., for pianoforte and violoncello, by Beethoven and Mendelssohn, the services of Signor Piatti have been secured for the eight matinees, at each of which one of these celebrated works will be performed. Besides playing one of the principal sonatas of Schubert at each concert, Mr. Hallé will introduce selections from the compositions of Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Chopin, Heller, and others.

At the Philharmonic Concert, last Monday, Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony" and two concertos—one by Mendelssohn, the other by Moïse—were performed.

Mr. Walter Macfarren, the eminent pianist, began a series of three matinees on Saturday morning last, at the Hanover-square Rooms. He was assisted on the occasion by M. Sainton (violin) and Signor Piatti (violoncello). The programme included Schumann's trio in D minor, op. 63; Mozart's sonata in E minor; Sterndale Bennett's trio in A, op. 26; and the following compositions of Mr. Macfarren:—A sonata for the piano and violin; a berceuse, a tarantella, and a

new "valse de concert" (encored) for the pianoforte. The room was crowded, and the performances went off with great éclat.

The third of Mr. John Boosey's excellent ballad concerts took place on Tuesday evening.

Mr. G. W. Martin's prize glees, national part-songs, &c., will be given at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday next, by his Prize Glee Choir, assisted by the ladies and gentlemen of the National Choral Society. Mdlle. Arabella Goddard is engaged as solo pianiste.

#### ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND

THE Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the schools in Scotland report to her Majesty that they find in that country a national institution, consisting of the parochial, side, and Parliamentary schools established by law, maintained by local assessment, and designed to be commensurate with the educational wants of the country, but, in fact, falling immeasurably short of the object for which it was designed. They find also a supplementary system, forced into existence partly by denominational rivalry, but mainly by the deficiencies of the national system, which furnishes more than two thirds of the education of the rural districts, and on which that of the towns mainly depends. Both the national and the voluntary schools are to a certain extent aided by grants from the Committee of Council. Assuming that one sixth of the population ought to be on the school rolls, the 418,367 children on the roll of some school in Scotland are 92,000 fewer than the proper number.

But of far more importance is the information obtained as to the quality of the teaching, the state of the buildings, and the appliances of the existing schools. In all these respects the schools are in a large measure defective. For details, the Commissioners refer to the reports of the Assistant Commissioners, and proceed to consider the best means for supplying the actual defects. The conclusion at which they arrive is that, by a judicious improvement of the parochial or national schools, and by taking advantage of the existing schools outside that system, combined with a reasonable modification of the rules on which the Privy Council grants are administered, and the extension of Government inspection, the existing schools may be rendered thoroughly efficient, and provision may be made under which these schools may all, in time, assume a national character. It will even then, however, be necessary, especially in large towns, to provide for the institution of new schools. In regard to the parochial or national schools, the Commissioners are of opinion that schoolmasters ought to be selected without regard to their being members of the Established Church; that there should be facilities given for getting rid of inefficient schoolmasters now in office; and that provision should be made for repairing and extending school buildings, as may be necessary. The schools supported by voluntary efforts, it is proposed, should be adopted into the national system, and subjected to inspection and supervision in order to secure efficiency. For this purpose the Commissioners are of opinion that central authority is indispensable; and they recommend the appointment of a board of education, consisting of a paid chairman and secretary, appointed by the Crown; three permanent members, to be named in the Act of Parliament; the chief magistrates of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen; and seven representative members to be chosen by the Universities and the Commissioners of Supply of Inverness, Perth, and Ayr. The duties of the board will be to incorporate into the national system as many of the existing schools as may be deemed requisite and efficient; to see that every district is supplied with an adequate number of schools; that the schools are efficiently maintained, and that the teacher does his duty. The committee of council will continue to administer the Parliamentary grant, and to conduct the business of inspection; but the inspector should not examine in religious knowledge unless requested to do so by a majority of the managers. Every national school would be open to scholars of all denominations, with liberty for any scholar to be withdrawn from any instruction to which his parents may, on religious grounds, object. None except national schools, it is proposed, shall share in the Parliamentary grant; all national schools to be subject to the revised code, omitting, as inapplicable to Scotland, art. 4, which limits the Parliamentary grant to the classes which support themselves by manual labour. The parish schools of Scotland have always been frequented by persons of every order; and the system has been a national system, supported by the taxation of the proprietors in the parish; and there has been sufficient tolerance to prevent any material difficulty arising from the "conscience" element. Under the scheme now proposed by the Commissioners, the parochial and adopted schools would continue to be managed as at present, but under the control of the board. The managers, therefore, of an adopted school will continue to elect the master and superintend the instruction; but the board will have power to see that the master is efficient and the buildings kept in repair. These schools will not be entitled to share in any local rate, the managers and subscribers paying this price for retaining the superintendence in their own hands. But, as the denominational system is unnecessary in Scotland, it is proposed that no new denominational school be erected by the aid of the Treasury, and that the privilege of adoption into the national system be confined to denominational schools in existence within two years after the passing of an Act for carrying this report into effect. When the board propose to establish a new school a school committee is to be elected by the town council or (in a rural parish) the ratepayers. Two thirds of the school committee may reject the proposal; but after twelve months the board may, of its own power, direct the school to be established. For the erection and support of such new schools there is to be an assessment on the ratepayers, proprietors, and occupiers; and any parochial or adopted school may be brought under this class of school by vote of two thirds at two successive meetings of heritors. With the exception of parochial teachers now in office, the board will require all teachers in schools connected with them to hold certificates of competency from the Committee of Council or from Scotch University examiners. The board will have power, for good cause, to suspend or withdraw a certificate of competency. In the opinion of the Commissioners, the required number of efficient schools and efficient teachers in Scotland may be supplied by a maximum rate of twopence in the pound on the annual valuation in the rural districts and in most of the towns, and by a maximum rate of twopence-halfpenny in the Hebrides, in Glasgow, and in a few of the largest towns in the country. The Commissioners consider it desirable that the Factory Acts be extended to branches of industry not at present under them, and that means be adopted for securing the more effectual observance of them. The present report is confined to elementary schools, making no recommendations specially adapted to infant schools, evening schools, or female schools. Burgh schools and middle-class schools are still under consideration; and the final report will deal with normal, industrial, and reformatory schools. Three of the Commissioners—Lord Belhaven, Lord Polwarth, and Mr. A. S. Cook—though they sign the report, object to some of the proposals made; Lord Belhaven "objects decidedly to the constitution of the proposed board."

A DISSENTING MINISTER advertises that he is in want of an engagement which will afford him "liberty to teach that benevolence is the characteristic of God's government, that God loves everybody, and will finally save all."

A COLLEGE FRIEND OF CORNELIUS O'DOWD.—When I was a student of arts at Trinity, Dublin, in days of more lightheartedness than I am like to know again, I chanced to have for my "chum" a man of considerable ability, and who, but for a disposition to indulge in drink, would have swept the college of all its prizes. After repeated acts of insubordination, originating in this unhappy fault, "calls to the board," fines, &c., he only escaped formal reprobation by a pledge solemnly given to his tutor, accompanied by a convention, that he was to have the daily privilege of one tumbler of punch, never to be exceeded, except if wet through and thoroughly soaked, when a second might be taken. Now my poor friend, not having that confidence in the climate of his native country that he might have fairly possessed, conceived the idea of aiding nature, and might be spied, towards six of an afternoon, standing on the steps of his chamber, while his servant, with a watering pot, performed the part of Pluvius from a window overhead, after which he would return to the company and beg them to note the condition he was in, and be able to bear testimony, if called upon, that he was in the predicament specified in the act, and eligible for another tumbler.—"Blackwood's Magazine" for May.

#### MUTINY IN THE CHURCH.

THE Bishop of Salisbury held his triennial visitation at Bridport, on Thursday week, where there was a large attendance of clergy and churchwardens. The charge consists principally of a vindication of those doctrines:—1, That certain men have had intrusted to them by God, as fellow-workers with Him, supernatural powers and prerogatives; 2, that God had been pleased to give to these His ministers the power of so altering the elements of bread and wine as to make them the channels of conveying to the soul for its subsistence the refreshing body and blood of Christ; 3, that as Christ, the ascended Lord, is ever pleading, so the clergymen, His ministers, plead on earth that which He pleads in Heaven; and, 4, that God, who alone can forgive sins, hath delegated to them, His representatives, the power and authority of expressing to those fitting to receive it the pardon of their sins. He proceeded to say that there was a time to speak and a time to keep silence, and he felt that the time for being outspoken had arrived in his diocese, and he had, without any mental reservation, God knew, acted on that conviction. At this point, the Rev. William C. Temple, the Rector of Burton Bradstock, stepped from his seat into the aisle in front of the Bishop, and exclaimed, with much fervour, "I believe there is a time to speak and a time to be silent; let those that are on the Lord's side follow me," and he turned and walked out of the church, followed by one of the churchwardens. This created a profound sensation, and intense silence prevailed for a minute or two. His Lordship manifested some emotion, but, recovering, he said, "I would only remind you that this is a court, and the clergy are bound to attend it, though their consciences are not bound to receive all they hear; of course, a person may be punished for any contempt of court." He then resumed the reading of the charge, but, before he had concluded, every churchwarden had left the church, and there were manifest signs of weariness among the clergy. In the afternoon the churchwardens held a meeting, and unanimously adopted the following address to the Bishop:—

To the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Salisbury.—My Lord,—As churchwardens of the several parishes within your diocese, we have this day attended your triennial visitation and heard the charge delivered by you to your clergy. Feeling that we have also responsible duties to perform, in endeavouring to preserve our Reformed Church from innovations and practices inimical to its pure faith, we avail ourselves of the occasion to express our deep regret at some of the opinions and doctrines therein enunciated. We believe them to be at variance with those principles for which our forefathers so nobly and successfully struggled more than 300 years ago, when they protested against the errors of the Church of Rome. Entertaining the highest possible respect for your Lordship's personal character and office, we nevertheless feel it incumbent on us to assert our belief that unless a check is at once and promptly made, both by clergy and laity, to those innovations and practices which are alien to the feelings of all sound Churchmen, a considerable portion of those who are now sincerely devoted to the Establishment will be induced to withdraw to Dissenting places of worship or be inauspiciously attracted towards the Church of Rome, and thereby destroy the harmony and weaken the confidence which has so long and happily existed among them.

We are, respectfully, your Lordship's devoted servants.

(Here follow the names of thirty-four churchwardens of the deanery of Bridport.)

FOREIGN BARLEY.—In the year 1866 the import of foreign barley into the United Kingdom rose to 2,361,482 quarters. The average price of imported barley, as registered at the London Custom House, was 31s. 9d. per quarter, exclusive of the duty; and the average price of British barley, as ascertained by the Controller of Corn Returns, was 37s. 4d. per quarter. In the first quarter of 1867 598,263 quarters of foreign barley have been imported, the average price registered at the Custom House being 35s. 1d., and the average price of British barley in the same period being 43s. 2d.

DISCOVERY OF A SILK-PLANT.—The Department of State at Washington has received information from the United States Consul at Lambayeque, Peru, that an important discovery had recently been made in Peru of the silk-plant. Preparations were being made to cultivate it upon an extensive scale. The shrub is 3 ft. or 4 ft. in height. The silk is inclosed in a pod, of which each plant gives a great number, and is declared to be superior in fineness and quality to the production of the silkworm. It is a wild perennial, the seed small and easily separated from the fibre. The stems of the plant produce a long and very brilliant fibre, superior in strength and beauty to the finest linen thread. Small quantities have been woven in the rude manner of the Indians, and the texture and brilliancy are said to be unsurpassed.

THE FENIANS.—Several more of the persons concerned in the late Fenian outbreak have been convicted either of high treason or of treason-felony. In the case of "The Queen v. Stephen J. Meany" the Court of Appeal delivered judgment on Saturday evening. The prisoner had been convicted at the last ordinary Commission of Oyer and Terminer of the crime of treason-felony. It had been proved at the trial that the Fenian conspiracy, of which he was a member, existed both in America and this kingdom, and that the prisoner had committed overt acts of treason-felony in America; but no overt act was proved against him in the county of the city of Dublin, in which he was tried, or anywhere else in this kingdom. Questions raised on behalf of the prisoner at the trial had been reserved by the learned Judges for this court, as to whether the conviction was good under the circumstances. All the Judges sat, with the exception of Mr. Justice Morris. Mr. Justice George, Baron Deasy, Mr. Justice Fitzgerald, Baron Hughes, Chief Justice Monaghan, and the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench were for upholding the conviction. Mr. Justice O'Hagan, Baron Fitzgerald, Mr. Justice O'Brien, Mr. Justice Keogh, and Chief Baron Pigott decided in favour of the prisoner. The conviction, therefore, is affirmed by a majority of one. John McCafferty, found guilty of high treason, was sentenced to death, on Monday morning, by Mr. Justice Fitzgerald. The prisoner said he was found guilty on the evidence of one witness, and that witness a perjured informer. He sympathised with the Irish people, and would again join them if they had any prospect of independence, but would not give his sanction to the useless effusion of blood. He would go to his grave as a gentleman and a Christian. The Judge said that the verdict was just, and he could hold out no hope that the sentence would be mitigated. June 12 is the day fixed for the execution. The health of the convict Burke is giving way rapidly. He is not likely to live till the day appointed for his execution, the 29th inst.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP DANAE.—On Tuesday, at high tide, the Danae sloop of war, 1260 tons, 350-horse power, pierced to carry four guns of heavy calibre, was successfully launched from Portsmouth dockyard, in the presence of between 2000 and 4000 spectators. The Danae, a vessel of a class eminently useful and much needed in Her Majesty's service, was constructed at the above-named port, from designs prepared by Mr. E. J. Reed, Chief Constructor of the Navy; and the following are her dimensions:—Length between perpendiculars, 212 ft.; length of keel for tonnage, 185 ft. 8 in.; extreme breadth, 36 ft.; breadth moulded, 35 ft. 3 in.; breadth for tonnage, 35 ft. 10 in.; depth of hold, 19 ft. 4 in.; tons burden (builder's measurement), 1286 8/94. The Danae is a wooden ship, and has six iron bulkheads, her hull being strengthened with iron as much as possible. She is of the Amazon class—the plough-bow being modified—and it is expected she will attain a comparatively high rate of speed (thirteen knots), considering the weight of her armament. Her engines are of the newest and most approved design. The Admiralty favour the construction of vessels of this description, and we have now building the Sirtus, Spartan, and Tenedos, all screw-sloops, similar to the vessel just launched. The Sirtus is being constructed in No. 1 slip at Portsmouth, the Spartan at Chatham, and the Tenedos at Devonport. The Danae will carry on her broadside two 64-ton 7-in. muzzle-loading rifle guns, and also two 64-pounder muzzle-loading rifle guns pointed through ports over her stern and stern ports. The customary preparations having been completed at Portsmouth for the launch from No. 2 building-slip, shortly before noon the Port Admiral, Sir Thomas Sabine Pasley, accompanied by the Misses Pasley, Admiral Superintendent Wellesley and Mrs. Wellesley, occupied a platform appropriately decorated and conveniently fitted at the bow of the ship, where hung the bottle of wine for the christening. Among those present were General Buller, commanding the south-western military division; his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Admiral Sir Charles Talbot, Captain and Lady Egerton, Captain Hood, Royal Naval College; Captain Goodenough, Her Majesty's ship Minotaur; Captain Chamberlaine, of the Steam Reserve; and the several heads of departments in Her Majesty's dockyard. The band of her Majesty's ship Minotaur was stationed on a staging under the shed, and performed the usual appropriate music during the ceremony. The police arrangements, under the direction of Mr. Superintendent Guy, were admirably carried out—complete order prevailed, and there were no accidents. At noon, when the tide was most favourable, the word was given to "knock away the dog-shore." Mr. Wellesley dashed the bottle against the bow, christening the vessel "the Danae." The rope was cut, and the sloop gently glided into the harbour, amidst loud cheers and "Rule Britannia" from the band. There never was a more successful launch at this port, for the ship did not rush into the water, but as soon as all was ready gradually and gracefully slid into the sea, with the Royal standard flying at the main jury-mast, the Admiralty flag at the fore, and the red ensign at the mizen. She was taken in tow after the launch, and now lies in the stream. The Danae will be placed in the steam-basin immediately, and brought forward for commission without delay.



of the Clerkenwell prison, which he would read, as it settled the whole question.

remedies Abscesses, Fistulas, and other painful affections, it effectually extirpates all neglected or wrongly-treated scabby complaints.



by THOMAS FOX, 3, Catherine-street, Strand, aforesaid.—  
SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1867.